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Taser cop involved in fatal crash

Mountie released by Delta police was one of four present at YVR Tasering

MARIA COOTAUCO
for Metro Vancouver

The RCMP officer who allegedly failed a breathalyzer test after a fatal crash on the weekend was one of the four Mounties present when Polish immigrant Robert Dziekanski died after being Tasered at Vancouver International Airport, Delta police said yesterday.

The officer was off-duty on Saturday night in Tsawwassen when a Jeep collided with a motorcycle travelling in the opposite direction. Orion Hutchinson, 21, was thrown from his bike and pronounced dead at the scene.

The officer, whose name has not been released, was taken into Delta Police custody where police allege he failed a breathalyzer test. He was released on Sunday without being charged.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Orion Hutchinson

Before the incident, the officer was working with the RCMP's 2010 Integrated Security Unit preparing for the upcoming Olympic games. He has been suspended with pay and will appear in Surrey Provincial Court on Jan. 15.

"This is a tragedy and a heartbreak … as member of the RCMP, all of us are absolutely sick about it," Sgt. Tim Shields said yesterday, adding the RCMP have no involvement in the investigation by Delta Police.

The three other officers at YVR when Dziekanski was Tasered more than one year ago are all still on-duty, Shields said, split up in various locations within the RCMP.

They are asked to give evidence at the Braidwood Inquiry looking into the death, which was postponed a second time to Jan. 19.

"We haven't yet heard if there are going to be any criminal charges against any of the members involved in the Tasering incident," Shields said. "Until we hear back from Crown Counsel, we cannot yet hand over the full investigational file to the inquiry."

ShareYourViews
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VANOC unveils 2009 Cultural Olympiad

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

Canadian songstress Sarah McLachlan is headlining a one-year countdown concert for the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Games, organizers announced yesterday as they unveiled plans for the 2009 Cultural Olympiad.

The six-week arts and culture exhibition, which runs from Feb. 1 to March 21, is being expanded online and will also tour across the country.

In all, it features more than 400 free and ticketed performances, everything from ballet and a circus troupe to puppets and films shown in shipping containers or projected onto piles of snow.

"Audiences around the world will watch our Games and visit here and will have an interest in learning more about the culture of Canada," said David Guscott, VANOC's VP of celebrations and partnerships.

"The cultural program that we show them will help shape their impressions."

Perhaps the highlight of the festival is a one-year countdown concert at Queen Elizabeth Theatre on Feb. 12, with headliner Sarah McLachlan. Tickets for the concert go on sale Saturday.

The Cultural Olympiad began last year and culminates in a 60-day festival before and during the 2010 Games. This year it is expanding across the country with a national touring program.

As well, VANOC is releasing a "digital edition" of Cultural Olympiad, which will include an online collaborative art project called The Canada Code.

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO VANCOUVER

Members of the aerial dance group Aeriosa Dance Society perform during the unveiling of the 2009 Cultural Olympiad at VANOC headquarters in Vancouver yesterday.

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

Program

- For the full Cultural Olympiad program visit vancouver2010.com/culturalolympiad.

Sarah McLachlan, right, is headlining the 2010 Games countdown concert.

Byelections today for two ridings

POLLS Downtown voters are heading to the polls today in the B.C. ridings of Vancouver-Burrard and Vancouver-Fairview to choose MLAs who will serve until the full provincial election in the spring.

Metro profiles the Vancouver-Fairview candidates seeking the seat of former NDP MLA Gregor Robertson. He resigned after winning the Vision nomination to run for mayor of Vancouver in the Nov. 15 civic election.

Robertson beat out Liberal Virginia Greene by 895 votes in 2005. It had been a Liberal seat between 1996 and 2005.

MONICA MARTINEZ
/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

CANDIDATE PROFILES, PAGE 4.

Celebrity pg 24

Jacko's praise stuns Efron

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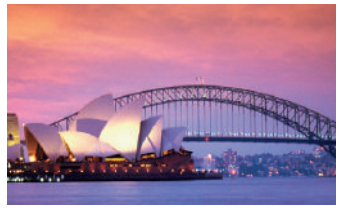

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INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 4.5-star all-inclusive accom.

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INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 4-star all-inclusive accom.

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Highway could be closed up a month
Highway 97 in the Okanagan between Kelowna and Penticton may be closed for about one month — not 48 hours as originally thought — after engineers found a crack in the rock face above a section of the road that appears to be shifting. The route has been closed since Friday. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Local

Hollow Tree's life extended

Stanley Park's Hollow Tree, left, has been temporarily spared from the chainsaw again. The Vancouver Park Board has given the Stanley Park Hollow Tree Conservation Society until December to come back with an engineer's design to keep the tree upright. METRO VANCOUVER

Conference targets human trafficking

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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The first statistics on human trafficking in Canada were released yesterday by legal experts from the University of British Columbia.

The data found that Romania, Moldova, the Philippines and China are the top source countries for foreign victims of human trafficking here.

These findings, along with data on 31 people brought to Canada from 2006 to 2008 as trafficking victims, will be presented today and tomorrow in Vancouver at an international conference on human trafficking.

"Until now (we've had) very broad estimates, and we hope that by having these real cases we'll better understand the problem and have better, more effective responses," said Benjamin Perrin, a professor in the faculty of law at UBC.

"Predominantly they are exploited in the sex trade and there were a number that were also victims of forced labour."

Perrin said victims were forced, coerced or conned into coming to Canada.

"When they get here (many are) told they have a massive debt they need to repay for travel and accommodation, which keeps them compliant and unable to leave."

He said the 31 cases are the "tip of the trafficking iceberg," adding that the statistics don't include domestic trafficking cases or situations where victims have returned to their home countries.

"A lot more work is needed to better identify and assist victims," he said.

Ladner says he will cap property taxes

The Non-Partisan Association will cap property tax increases to the rate of inflation and will ensure they do not exceed three per cent per year, mayoral candidate Peter Ladner said yesterday.

As well, Ladner said he would direct city departments to find cost savings and would improve revenues by increasing the city's "entrepreneurial capacity" through the upgrading of marinas and concession stands to higher-revenue restaurants.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Painting **Mayor gets a gift**

RAE ARNOTT/METRO VANCOUVER

Vancouver Mayor Sam Sullivan, left, receives a painting from quadriplegic painter Cody Tresierra, right, at City Hall yesterday. The gift was in recognition of Sullivan's ongoing support of Paralympic athletes.

Young wants complete recount

ELECTION A lawyer for Vancouver South Conservative candidate Wai Young is expected to appear at the B.C. Supreme Court tomorrow to demand that all the votes be recounted.

The result of the recount announced last Friday declared Liberal Ujjal Dosanjh as the official winner by a 22-vote margin, but the Conservative party says that only 28 ballot boxes out of 184 were recounted. The recount included checking the 259 rejected ballots, in which 41 were declared valid, decreasing Dosanjh's 33 vote lead to 26. Four changed votes from the recount brought it down to a 22-vote win. MONICA MARTINEZ/ FOR METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

IDENTIFIED Lana Marie Christophersen, 26, who is originally from Alberta, was identified by police yesterday as the woman killed in an explosion in an East Vancouver apartment. Her 21-year-old roommate is in critical condition.

PROTEST About 50 protesters gathered outside the Mexican consulate in Vancouver yesterday in support of Pavel Kulisek, a Canadian man in a Mexico jail, charged with conspiring to traffic narcotics, cknw.com reports. His supporters say he's innocent and want the Canadian government to help bring him home.

GROW-OP The RCMP arrested three men and three women, seized five rifles, two shotguns, ammunition and counterfeit Canadian money at a grow-op in Langley. METRO VANCOUVER

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Watch MetroTube of the Day to see the Wazzup guys return to reflect on eight years under Bush

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Vancouver-Fairview neighbourhoods
The Vancouver-Fairview riding encompasses the Kitsilano, Shaugnessy, South Cambie, Mount Pleasant and the Granville Island-False Creek neighbourhoods. METRO VANCOUVER

MacDiarmid brings a healing hand to politics

JEFF HODSON
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RAFE ARNOTT/METRO VANCOUVER

Dr. Margaret MacDiarmid in her West 6th Avenue campaign office.

As a doctor and as a recent patient, Dr. Margaret MacDiarmid brings a rare perspective on health care in B.C.

"I can be a strong, constructive voice, participating in debate and helping us to go forward with policy that is going to help British Columbians," said MacDiarmid, a family doctor for 23 years and a former president of the B.C. Medical Association.

"I support our publicly funded health-care system and I know there are some places where it is excellent and some places where we need to do some work."

MacDiarmid recently found herself on the other side of the stethoscope when she was diagnosed with breast cancer last year. She is now fully recovered.

"I had quite a bit of time to reflect about whether (entering politics) was the right choice," she said.

VANCOUVER-FAIRVIEW
Oct. 29 **Byelection**

"I must say that after being a patient at the cancer agency that it's a wonderful facility and I got wonderful care in the public system."

As for the byelection, MacDiarmid said the top issue on peoples' minds in Vancouver-Fairview is the economy, followed by homelessness and care for people with mental illness.

MacDiarmid said she's in favour of initiatives like B.C. Housing's homelessness outreach program that brings together employment help with addiction treatment and support for mental illness and medical problems.

Standing up for people important to McGinn

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KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

NDP candidate Jenn McGinn outside her constituency office at Cambie Street and West Broadway yesterday.

Jenn McGinn says a responsible and caring government should be one and the same, and that's a mandate she'd bring with her as MLA for Vancouver-Fairview.

"When I see something I think is unjust I've always been the one to stand up," said McGinn, who's the riding's NDP candidate in today's provincial byelection. "That lends really well to the skills of an MLA, which is to listen to the problems of my community and be an advocate for those people."

McGinn said careers in community social services and in banking as a lender for health and social services, arts and culture and environmental organizations, has set her up for the role.

"What I've learned from this background is we really do need … to support vulnerable people. But … we need to do it in a matter that's socially and fiscally responsible."

As MLA, she said she'd fight for, among other things, better transit, more childcare and affordable housing, and a higher minimum wage.

"The people of Vancouver-Fairview need a government that's going to help them, not hinder them," she said.

Cambie Street

- Jenn McGinn said she plans to get business owners along Cambie Street compensated or recognized for loss of income while the road was under construction for the Canada Line.

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Carbon tax flawed: Hanni

MONICA MARTINEZ
for Metro Vancouver

The only truly conservative choice for B.C. is the Conservative party, said B.C. Tory Leader Wilf Hanni who is running in today's by-election.

Wilf Hanni

He said Premier Gordon Campbell promised to be a conservative government when elected in 2001 but took a major swing to the left with the introduction of the carbon tax.

"Despite public outrage with the carbon tax, Campbell soldiers on. He is very left wing and out of touch with voters," Hanni said.

He said he does not believe pollution causes global warming nor does he believe the carbon tax will have any effect on pollution.

Give Greens a chance, Sterk says

Test drive a Green, Vancouver-Fairview candidate Jane Sterk urged yesterday.

"(Constituents) can essentially vote us in," she said "It's a six-month term and they can put us on probation and if we don't live up to their expectations, they can terminate our employment in May."

Jane Sterk

If given a chance, the B.C. Green Party leader wants to see the restructuring of the voting system in time for next year's provincial election to allow "for fairer elections and more representative results."

MARIA COOTAUCO
FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Drug prohibition boosts crime: Emery

Increasing the number of police officers is not the way to address crime, Jodie Emery, B.C. Marijuana candidate for Vancouver-Fairview said yesterday.

Jodie Emery

"I suggest repealing prohibition that would take drugs away from organized crime," said the 23-year-old wife of Marc Emery who is also running for MLA in Vancouver-Burrard.

She cited a BCBusiness article that claimed B.C.'s $7.5-billion marijuana industry was the 'unofficial' third largest by GDP in 2005.

MONICA MARTINEZ
FOR METRO VANCOUVER

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Bank note images used and altered with permission of the © Bank of Canada.

Quebec man sends diamond to Israeli politician

Israel's popular Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni is being wooed by a Quebec admirer who sent her a diamond ring this week. Livni, a married mother of two, instructed her staff to return the ring to Laurent Bélanger and thank him. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Canada

Page avoids jail time

Steven Page, left, lead singer of the Barenaked Ladies, will not to go jail on charges of drug possession, so long as he stays drug-free for six months and seeks substance abuse treatment, a Fayetteville, N.Y., judge said yesterday. The 38-year-old Page and two women were arrested in July after police found cocaine in a Fayetteville apartment. METRO NEWS SERVICES

McKenna says he won't run for Grit leadership

REBUILDING Frank McKenna doesn't want to lead the federal Liberals, saying the job of rebuilding the battered party was a bigger job that he was ready to take on.

McKenna ended days of speculation with an official announcement yesterday that he would not be a contender to replace Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion, who will step down after leading the party to its worst election result in recent memory.

Frank McKenna

"Although I have been deeply moved by expressions of support for me from across the country, I have not been persuaded to change my long-standing resolve to exit public life for good," McKenna said.

Shooting suspect turns himself in

TORONTO Kyle Weese, subject of a nationwide manhunt since innocent bystander Bailey Zaveda was shot dead in front of a Toronto Tavern early Saturday, turned himself in to Toronto police last night.

The 25-year-old was with a man believed to be his lawyer.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Emergency meeting

PM, premiers will gather to discuss economic crisis

Prime Minister Stephen Harper yesterday announced an emergency meeting on the economy with Canada premiers on Nov. 10 as federal and provincial governments struggle try to stave off deficits.

A meeting Monday in Toronto of federal and provincial treasurers and Bank of Canada Governor Mark Carney would "lay the groundwork for the first ministers' meeting" a week later, Duncan said.

The first ministers' meeting will be the first of several gatherings on the economy involving Harper and the premiers as governments contend with dropping revenues and the growing fear of deficit financing.

While Harper and Finance Minister Jim Flaherty posed for a photo yesterday, designed to give the impression they are hard at work, they refused to take questions on the economy or anything else.

For the Prime Minister, it was the continuation of a week-long silence. The PMO did not outline any objectives for the meeting in a one-line press release announcing the date, and Harper's director of communications dampened expectations for the gathering.

"I don't think there's anyone who thinks there is a quick fix, one meeting solution to the economy," Kory Teneycke said.

TORSTAR NEW SERVICE

CHRIS WATTIE/ REUTERS

Provincial Liberals polling high in Quebec

POLITICS Quebec Premier Jean Charest, a leading opponent of separation from Canada, would win reelection in the French-speaking province if he triggers an election next week as widely expected, two polls suggested yesterday.

Re-election would push further into the future any possibility of Quebec separatists forcing a third referendum on independence from Canada. Their first two attempts to break up Canada, in 1980 and 1995, failed. Separatists must be in power to be able to launch a referendum.

Charest's Liberals are six to eight points ahead of the Parti Quebecois and 18 to 21 points ahead of the Action democratique du Quebec, possibly even enough to get a majority government. **REUTERS**

opposed

- 70 to 75 per cent of Quebecers oppose a provincial election call just 19 months after the last one.

Canada slips in health care

RANKING Canada is trailing other developed countries in overall health performance, according to a report released by the Conference Board of Canada yesterday.

Canada ranked 10th out of 16 countries in a comparison of 10 health indicators, including: life expectancy, self-reported health status, premature mortality and infant mortality.

falling

- In the past decade, Canada has fallen to 10th place from fifth on the list.

The report is not meant to be an assessment of health-care systems, but an evaluation of the overall health of the population, said Brenda Lafleur, a director with the Conference Board of Canada.

"We wanted to give a reality check to Canadians as to where we actually stand in relation to other developed countries," Lafleur said.

The report gave Canada a "B" grade on health, and cited increasing levels of mortality due to diabetes, which is much more prevalent, as a cause of concern for both policy-makers and the public.

Canada was also given poor marks in the report for failing to adequately address the complex issue of mental illness. It stated that "mental health services are in need of serious reform."

Canada's grades have remained in the "B" range since the 1960s.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

ECONOMY The Canadian government balked at a request from the auto-parts industry for up to $1 billion in emergency funds and loan guarantees yesterday, arguing it has already taken steps to improve financing conditions.

COPYRIGHT Ottawa has extended music royalties to the Internet in a move that will encompass commercial TV and radio station Web sites, electronic gaming sites and online radio stations.

RELEASED At least nine prisoners have been mistakenly released by the Saskatchewan courts in nearly 2½ years, the province's justice minister acknowledged yesterday, CBC News Online reports. Some of the cases involved mistaken identity and some were set free because of clerical or technical errors, the province said.

MONEY Ottawa's arbitrary and "paternalistic" rules on retirement funds are pushing many seniors to sell stocks at a loss and deplete their nest eggs, a prominent retirement group is warning.

SCIENCE According to new research out of the University of Calgary, the Tyrannosaurus Rex had the best sense of smell of all carnivorous dinosaurs, playing down its scavenger reputation. The researchers were the first to rank the T. rex's sense of smell. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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Scientists urge ban on catching Atlantic sharks

An international team of scientists wants to ban the catching of eight species of Atlantic Ocean sharks, and put a strict limit on two others, to try to prevent population crashes in the slow-reproducing and slow-growing species. REUTERS

World/Business

McCain going out fighting

Republican presidential nominee John McCain said yesterday he sensed momentum behind him despite a daunting electoral picture in which Democrat Barack Obama holds a steady lead a week before Election Day.

Hoping to dent Obama's armour, McCain and his No. 2 Sarah Palin ramped up criticism of Obama's tax plan and the McCain campaign released a television ad that tried to raise voter doubts about Obama by pointing out that he said last May he did not believe Iran posed a serious threat.

McCain told Fox News Channel's Sean Hannity that he felt growing enthusiasm that reminds him of his comeback victory in the Republican primary, "where we were running behind and we sensed this momentum building."

"I am convinced that seven days from now we will win in North Carolina," McCain told a crowded rally in Fayetteville, where U.S. military families and veterans have a strong presence.

REUTERS/BRIAN SNYDER

Republican presidential nominee Senator John McCain and his wife Cindy greet supporters at a rally in Hershey, Pa., yesterday.

McCain is in a neck-and-neck battle with Obama in the normally Republican state of North Carolina, emblematic of a gloomy outlook for Republicans in this year of financial turmoil.

Obama, feeling the heat from McCain's accusations that he wants to redistribute Americans' wealth, took the Arizona senator head on at an event in Chester, Pa.

He said McCain's proposals to extend tax cuts would worsen the country's budget picture, and again sought to tie McCain to the policies of unpopular President Bush.

"John McCain has ridden shotgun as George Bush has driven our economy toward a cliff, and now he wants to take the wheel and step on the gas," Obama said.

Obama leads McCain by 49 per cent to 45 per cent among likely voters in a national tracking poll by Reuters/C-SPAN/Zogby, a slight dip from his 5-point advantage Monday. REUTERS

France **Auto workers protest**

REUTERS/VINCENT KESSLER

A woman, with the slogan "My father is not for sale" painted on her face, demonstrates with workers of a General Motors plant in Strasbourg yesterday. French carmakers have reduced production and closed factories to manage unsold vehicle stocks.

Elvis top earner in the boneyard at $52M

RANKING Elvis Presley may have left the building several decades ago, but his earning power is far from diminished with Forbes.com ranking him the top-earning dead celebrity for the second year in a row.

Presley pulled in $52 million US in the past year, helped by increased visitors to his Graceland estate on the 30th anniversary of his death and a new venture on satellite radio.

Coming in at No. 2 with $33 million US in earnings was Peanuts cartoonist Charles Schulz, who died in 2000, while Australian actor Heath Ledger nabbed third spot at an estimated $20 million US.

Forbes.com said it spoke to experts and sources inside the dead celebrities' estates and researched gross earnings, before taxes, fees and other costs, to come up with the rankings. REUTERS

Hudson's nephew died of gunshot wounds: Examiner

CHICAGO The seven-year-old nephew of Oscar-winning actress Jennifer Hudson died of gunshot wounds, officials said yesterday, ruling his death a homicide like those of Hudson's mother and brother.

Julian King died of "multiple gunshot wounds," the office of Cook County Medical Examiner Dr. Nancy Jones announced.

The likely time of death was not announced, so it remained unknown whether the boy was killed at the same time as his grandmother and uncle were, or was slain after being abducted.

Police have said they believe the slayings were the result of a domestic dispute, and have named as a "person of interest" a man with whom Jennifer Hudson's sister Julia — the mother of the dead boy — once had a relationship.

William Balfour, 27, was arrested and is being held for a parole violation. REUTERS

News in brief

TALIBAN Pakistan and Afghanistan agreed to establish contacts with Taliban militants through tribal leaders, following talks over how to end the bloodshed. A Taliban spokesman rejected the idea.

CHILE Health Minister Maria Soledad Barria resigned yesterday in the wake of a scandal in which a hospital in far northern Chile failed to notify dozens of patients that they had tested positive for HIV.

ENVIRONMENT The WWF says the Earth's natural resources are being depleted so quickly that at current rates, we would need two planets to sustain us by the mid-2030s. REUTERS

Business

Microsoft to simplify OS

Microsoft Corp. is betting its next Windows operating system will be faster and easier to use and avoid the missteps of Windows Vista that alienated many users of the software that powers 90 per cent of the world's PCs.

Windows 7, which was previewed yesterday, is set to be introduced in a test version early next year with features including touch screen technology and the ability to more easily personalize the system.

Windows Vista was so heavily criticized due to poor compatibility with devices and slow start speeds that it became the target of an marketing campaign by rival Apple Inc.

In addition, the usefulness of a traditional Windows desktop operating system is being challenged as more software applications move online, highlighting the central role of Internet browsers in a world centered on the Web.

Microsoft decided to measure success by a positive user experience versus technical superiority, often overlooked by consumers.

Julie Larson-Green, who's overseeing the design of Windows 7, said: "It's fine to have the best technical solution. But just like VHS and Beta (Betamax), the best technical solution doesn't always matter," referring to the video format battles in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

The company also adopted a 'simple is better' philosophy, removing the system's complexity.

The company also adopted a 'simple is better' philosophy, looking to remove complexity from an operating system that incorporated 50 million lines of code in Vista.

"The general perception is that Vista is a damaged brand, so it behooves Microsoft to move on to sell something new even if it's not a quantum leap in terms of technology," said Toan Tran, analyst at Morningstar. REUTERS

Office online

The next upgrade of Office business software will include a version that edits word processing documents and spreadsheets inside a Web browser, Microsoft said. Files can be edited on a computer, Web browser or a mobile phone.

In **brief**

RETAIL Wal-Mart Canada said it is on pace to meet its annual target of opening, expanding or relocating 25 to 27 outlets by the end of January 2009, but noted its spending on development projects would slow to reflect a darker outlook for retailing.

AUTOMOTIVE General Motors Corp. has asked the U.S. government for roughly $10 billion US in an unprecedented rescue package to support its acquisition of Chrysler LLC from Cerberus Capital Management, sources familiar with the talks said. REUTERS

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Comment & Views

Comment

Free speech isn't really free

TheWestView

Paul Sullivan

Journalist & media consultant

If you're mad as hell at the media, you won't want to miss The Media's Right to Offend: Exploring Legal and Ethical Limits on Free Speech if you happen to be near the University of King's College in Halifax this Saturday.

I mean, it's no charge and they're even offering lunch.

Maybe you'd rather spend Saturday at the dentist, but as a serial offender, it's too bad I won't be there — can't be too careful in the wake of the ordeal of Mark Steyn and Maclean's magazine before the B.C. Human Rights Tribunal.

Steyn is a media offender, a very good one; albeit so far right he makes Sarah Palin look like a liberal. He wrote a book called America Alone about how Muslims are intent upon global domination and will achieve it through sheer determination to reproduce. Demographically, the West is doomed. Maclean's printed an excerpt headlined: Why the Future Belongs to Islam.

Interesting piece, but the fallout is even more interesting. The Canadian Islamic Congress had a snit, then went shopping until it found a tribunal willing to hear its complaint that the article exposed Muslims to hatred and contempt because of their religion.

Turned away by Ontario, the CIC went to B.C., where it found a willing ear.

On Oct. 10, two years after the offending issue hit the stands, the B.C. tribunal issued its decision: The article may cause readers to fear Muslims, but that's not the same as hatred or contempt. Case dismissed.

So speech in Canada is still free, eh? Nuh-uh. Consider. It took a whack of lawyers for Maclean's to get Steyn off the hook. The tribunal held a week-long hearing in June, then issued a 37-page decision that deconstructs every title and jot.

Why would any sane publisher invite that kind of scrutiny?

Remind me not to write about Muslims … or for that matter, utter any "any statement, publication, notice, sign, symbol, emblem or other representation that … is likely to expose a person or a group or class of persons to hatred or contempt."

The authors of the relevant section of the code may have been targetting neo-Nazis, not Mark Steyn, who is only neo-conservative. But like most other well-meaning attempts to regulate freedom of expression, it serves to lower the temperature around newsrooms, and media offenders risk severe frostbite if we dare to take on anything more controversial than the price of tea in China. On second thought … tea, China, maybe not.

So, if you're worried about missing The Media's Right to Offend, relax … and rest assured that our right to offend has been severely curtailed.

But then again, you'll miss lunch.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist, owner of Sullivan Media consulting, and editor-in-chief of Orato.com, the citizen news website.

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Oden hurts foot

Portland Trail Blazers rookie Greg Oden's highly anticipated NBA debut didn't last long last night. He left the game against the Lakers late in the first half with a foot injury and did not return. Oden missed all of last year with a knee injury. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

World Series continues tonight ... maybe

Major League Baseball has scheduled the continuation of Game 5 of the World Series in Philadelphia for tonight, weather permitting. The game was suspended in a 2-2 tie between the Rays and Phillies during the sixth inning Monday night, and MLB officials cancelled plans to continue it last night due to more rain in the Philadelphia area. The Phillies lead the series 3-1 and can wrap up their first world championship in 28 years with a win. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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No doubting Thomas

NHL RESULT

Bruins 1 Canucks 0

VS

SCOTT RINTOUL
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REUTERS/ANDY CLARK

Bruins goalie Tim Thomas had 31 saves in Boston's 1-0 win.

THE SKINNY: For the second straight night, Tim Thomas stopped every shot directed his way as the Bruins edged the Canucks 1-0. A night after stonewalling the Edmonton Oilers, Thomas made a single goal stand as Michael Ryder's first period marker proved to be the winner. Roberto Luongo was nearly as strong in the Canucks' net, stopping all but one of Boston's 30 shots.

THE STAR: Thomas made the biggest of his 31 saves on third period chances for Henrik Sedin and Ryan Kesler. Thomas has stopped all 58 shots on this western Canadian road trip and 122 of the last 126 pucks fired on net.

THE SHOT: Jason Krog had half a net to shoot at on a second period powerplay, but he didn't get good wood on the feed from Daniel Sedin.

THE HITMAN: Burnaby native Milan Lucic had eight hits for the Bruins, just four shy of the total for the entire Canucks' roster. Lucic was named third star.

THE QUOTE: **"Our top players have to find a way to score."** Alain Vigneault following Vancouver's fourth loss in five games.

THE NEXT GAME: Thursday against the Kings in L.A.

Oilers looking to make trade?

YorkReport

Marty York

marty.york@metronews.ca

The Edmonton Oilers, slumping with four consecutive losses after an impressive 4-0 start, are desperately trying to trade a goaltender for a hard-nosed forward. Or two.

This is the word from two NHL sources, who told Metro the Oilers' Kevin Lowe and Steve Tambellini spent much of yesterday dangling their goalies as trade bait in discussions with rival club executives.

While the upstart Oilers have three NHL-calibre goalies — Dwayne Roloson, Mathieu Garon and Jeff Drouin-Deslauriers — it's become clear in recent games that they lack sufficient firepower.

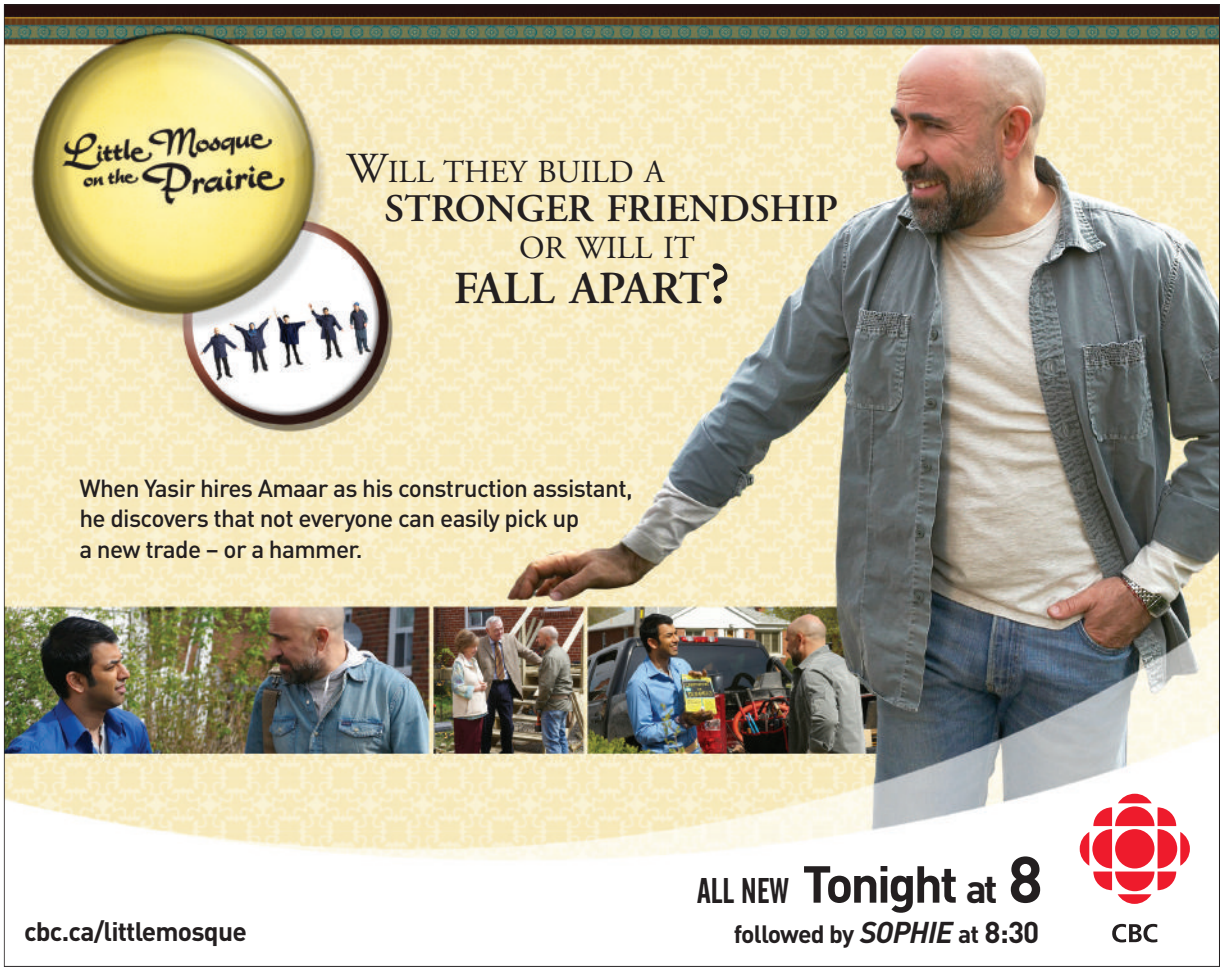
After their 1-0 loss to the Boston Bruins Monday night, in fact, coach Craig MacTavish criticized the Oilers for being "too cute" and failing to produce an "aggressive enough attack." He also said they haven't been "going to the tough areas to score goals." Which explains their need for a hard-nosed forward. Or two.

• It's been the exact opposite story with Alberta's other NHL squad, which went undefeated (3-0) last week. Calgary's hard-nosed forward, Jarome Iginla, scored five of the Flames' 11 goals. Dallas Stars loudmouth Sean Avery recently claimed Iginla is too quiet off the ice for the NHL to market, but the Calgary captain is making profound statements on the ice. And NHL fans hear his messages loudly and clearly. There's a poll on NHL.com, in fact, in which the majority of participating fans suggest Iginla will score more than 50 goals this season.

• So how did the Phillies react when MLB commissioner Bud Selig suspended their World Series game after the Tampa Bay Rays tied it at 2-2 after the fifth inning Monday night?

"That (expletive deleted) Selig," a Philadelphia pitcher said within earshot of a New Jersey reporter (who didn't identify him). "I wouldn't let him supervise one of my (bowel movements). He has no clue. Not one (expletive deleted) clue." The same reporter said another Phillie said this about Selig: "He's a moron. How stupid can one person be?"

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.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Rypien out indefinitely

INJURY Canucks forward Rick Rypien has a sports hernia that will require surgery and is out indefinitely. Rypien had two goals in the first five games before leaving the team after contracting a virus during the recent six-game road trip. He had resumed working out and skating on his own before team practices when he felt a twinge in his abdomen. It's the latest in a long list of injuries for Rypien, who is a cousin of former NFL quarterback Mark Rypien.

Lions' unanimous choices

CFL Lions defensive end Cameron Wake headlined the West Division nominees for each team's CFL Outstanding Defensive Player yesterday.

Jackson

Wake was a unanimous selection, recording 20 sacks, 60 defensive tackles and a blocked field goal so far this season. Receiver Paris Jackson also earned the unanimous selection as the Lions' Outstanding Canadian with his 73 receptions for 1,149 yards and 7 TD. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Tough year for Quest
Quest University, a B.C.-based private, liberal arts institution, has had a rough first year. In order to boost its sluggish enrolment, Quest sought an alliance with Sprott-Shaw Community College. Within a month, the deal dissolved. Meanwhile, the school is cutting costs, raising money, and searching for creative ideas. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

UBC's brilliance

T. Todd Jones, a doctoral student in zoology at the University of British Columbia, has made it on Popular Science's "Brilliant 10" list, which recognizes young scientists every year.
METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

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Fashion-conscious maternity clothes

Small Business

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Melissa and Jun Paul Obayashi want moms-to-be to look and feel just as sexy as celebrities with baby bumps and not have to compromise their personal sense of style.

The married Vancouver couple decided to ditch their day jobs and start up Vie Maternity Boutique, a store devoted to offering stylish maternity wear that women would actually want to wear regardless of whether they were having a baby or not.

"People want to look good and dress well, even when they're pregnant," Melissa Obayashi said.

Melissa, 28, realized just how lacking in stylish maternity wear the clothing market was when she was pregnant with her son.

Being a 12-year veteran of the fashion industry, she was appalled at how few choices a pregnant mother had in how to dress. She did some research and found plenty of companies offering quality, stylish maternity clothing that, for one reason or another, had not entered the Canadian market. She knew she had found a lucrative niche providing attractive clothing that was up-to-date with current trends and quality standards.

Melissa Obayashi conceived the idea of Vie Maternity Boutique after she found a lack of fashionable maternity wear in Canada.

"It's all really just about really good quality clothing that's keeping with today's trends. A lot of maternity clothing is five years behind in style," Melissa said.

Since the store opened for business in the Yaletown district last year, Melissa says designer jeans, career wear and casual pants have been the hottest sellers and she travels regularly to fashion expositions around the world to keep tabs on the latest styles.

When possible, she makes sure to try on every single piece of clothing herself before she orders it for the store.

The Obayashis are funding Vie Maternity Boutique completely themselves, having struck well financially in the Vancouver real estate market. Rather than sit on their money, the two decided to invest it in a business venture that combines Melissa's fashion skills with Jun Paul's investment expertise.

Jun Paul, a life-long entrepreneur and veteran investor with experience in the restaurant and film industry, decided Vie Maternity Boutique was the right choice after the birth of his first son. He realized he was risking more than his own finances every time he backed another movie production.

"My priorities changed with the birth of my son," Jun Paul said.

With wealthy customers even flying in from nearby provinces to shop at the store, success has outpaced stress at the store counter for the entrepreneurial couple.

"Is there stress that it's my money? Not really. I'd probably have more stress if I was risking the bank's money, though it's definitely been a lot more nerve-racking because I've put on the ownership hat," Jun Paul said.

"It's all really just about really good quality clothing."
Vie Maternity Boutique co-owner Melissa Obayashi

WorkplaceLaw
WILL RETURN

Can't come to work, dog is stressed

STUDY CareerBuilder.com's annual survey on absenteeism shows 33 per cent of workers have played hooky from the office, calling in sick when they were well at least once this year. When asked to share the most unusual excuses employees gave for missing work, employers offered the following real-life examples:

- Employee didn't want to lose the parking space in front of his house;
- Employee hit a turkey while riding a bike;
- Employee said he had a heart attack early that morning, but that he was "all better now";
- Employee donated too much blood;
- Employee's dog was stressed out after a family reunion;
- Employee was kicked by a deer;
- Employee's wife burned all his clothes and he had nothing to wear to work.

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Automotive

A METRO JOINT VENTURE WITH: carguide magazine.com

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Hot seller more affordable

Mazda3 Sport's new GX trim pushes down price, not performance

NEIL MOORE
for Metro Canada

The 2008 Mazda3 with its 2.0 and 2.3-litre fours puts out 148 hp and 156 hp, respectively. Mazda3's styling is also subtly athletic, with its clean body panels fashioned into wide shoulders and bulging wheel flares, creating a hunkered-down stance. The Mazda3 has been a hot seller and, more than four years later, has not grown stale.

The Mazda3 sedan has always been available with base engine and trim, giving price conscious, entry-level buyers some choices under $20K. The same could not be said, however, for the hatch. Both its trim levels offered only the 2.3-litre engine which, with enhanced content, pushed the price beyond many entry-level budgets.

This year, the Mazda3 Sport (hatchback) added a new trim level — the GX — which is unique to the Canadian market. It is powered by the same 148-horsepower, 2.0-litre engine found in the current Mazda3 GX and GS sedans.

With wide shoulders and low front fascia, the Mazda3 Sport GX offers a muscular, hunkered down look.

The 2008 Mazda3 Sport GX starts at $17,895 with five-speed manual transmission. Add $1,000 for four-speed automatic and another $1,000 for air. By comparison, the GS trim level starts at $22,195 with manual ($23,295 auto) and the GT starts at $23,495 ($24,595 auto).

A large cargo opening and low floor make it easy to load the Mazda3 Sport hatchback.

The GX comes standard with 15-inch steel wheels, body coloured front grille, GFX front and rear bumpers, and sporty fog lamps.

Let's stop here — 15 inch steel wheels? Sure, the GS and GT come with 16-inch and 17-inch alloys, but look ahead two years when it's time to replace the rubber. If you're eager to keep costs down at the dealer showroom, what are the chances you'll want to dish out big dollars for new tires?

The GX also comes with four-wheel disc brakes with ABS and electronic brake force distribution. Safety is enhanced with dual front airbags, side and curtain airbags.

Sound is provided by a four-speaker AM/FM CD sound system with MP3 capability and auxiliary input. Other standard features include tilt and telescopic steering wheel, 12-volt power outlet, 60/40 split fold-down rear seats and intermittent rear wiper.

There are a number of power items missing from this list, which are available as standard on the GS.

Still, if you want more content, order the Comfort Package, which, for another $1,295, adds power locks and windows, keyless entry, steering-wheel audio controls, 15-inch alloys, power and heated mirrors, and a rear roof spoiler. You must order air to get the Comfort Package.

Aside from its sporty look, one of the main reasons I'd opt for the hatch is its cargo capability. Order the sedan and you get a 325-litre trunk, while the hatchback offers 484 litres behind the rear seat. But fold down the seatbacks and that expands to 1240 litres of space with a large opening and low cargo floor.

But there's more to the Mazda3 Sport than its prowess at hauling your stuff. Despite its low sticker price, interior fit and finish is worthy of cars costing thousands more. The quality of the plastics, fabrics and trim are first rate, and everything fits solidly and tightly.

Seat fabrics are comfortable and attractive, and the seats themselves are reasonably supportive.

Fuel economy is another consideration in choosing the 2.0-litre engine, and at 8.4/6.1 L/100 km city/hwy, it offers an advantage over its 2.3-litre sibling at 9.2/6.7 L/100 km, with five-speed manual.

Horsepower, as previously mentioned, is 148 at 6,500 rpm and torque is rated at 135 lb/ft at 4,500 rpm.

2008 Mazda3 Sport GX

Type: Compact five-door hatchback
Price: $17,895
Engine: 2.0-litre, four-cylinder, 16-valve DOHC
HP: 148

Highlights

- Athletic styling
- Hatch style offers decent storage
- Interior trim well finished

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High Caliber, bargain price

LORNE DRURY
for Metro Canada

Performance and low price rarely go hand in hand when you're talking about cars these days.

However, with Dodge's 2008 Caliber SRT4, you get 285 hp and 265 lb/ft of torque, starting at less than the $25,000 mark.

Talk about a bargain. Most performance versions of these compact sport sedans list at closer to the $30,000 mark.

SRT stands for street and racing technology and it is Chrysler's performance division. It has a number of models currently on the market including the Jeep Grand Cherokee SRT8, Viper SRT10, Charger SRT8, and the Brampton-built Chrysler 300 SRT8 and Challenger SRT8.

With the Caliber SRT4, what Chrysler has done is taken a standard production Caliber, tweaked it with a turbocharger, high-performance suspension, huge brakes, 19-inch wheels and dressed it up with scoops and a rear spoiler, all for a starting price of $24,995.

The hood scoop and wheels are the first clue that this isn't just any Dodge Caliber. It's the 2008 Caliber SRT4, with 285 hp and 265 lb/ft of torque.

2008 Dodge Caliber SRT4

Type: Compact car
Price: $24,995 as tested
Engine: 2.4-litre DOHC inline four-cylinder
HP: 285

Highlights

- Powerful
- Affordable
- Eye-popping colours

With these modifications, your normal Caliber economy hatch now goes from 0-96 km/h in just more than six seconds. A quarter-mile time is estimated at 13.6 seconds.

In the SRT4, the 2.4-litre intercooled turbo inline four-cylinder engine is mated with a six-speed Getrag manual transmission. No automatic transmission is offered, so if a high-performance machine is your desire, be prepared to shift manually.

My tester included an SRT option package ($925) and special SRT wheels ($250). With a destination charge of $1,200, the car was listed at $27,470 — a great price for the performance this car provides.

However, if you hurry, you might be able to do better than that. I recently saw a loaded 2008 SRT4 advertised for $21,795 as dealers start to clear out the 2008s to make room for incoming 2009 models.

In the SRT4, the four-wheel independent suspension is specially tuned and lowered. It features unique springs, front and rear anti-sway bars and twin-tube dampers. Traction control is standard.

To get the power to the right places in this front-drive vehicle, the SRT4 has a specially-engineered Electronic Stability Program (ESP) with Brake Lock Differential (BLD) technology to transfer torque to the drive tire with the most traction.

Inside, the basic Caliber interior has been modified with special SRT4 embroidered front seats that are deeply bolstered and similar to those found on the $100,000 Dodge Viper.

The outside has been dressed up with a functional hood scoop, a unique front fascia, fog lamps, a large rear spoiler and SRT badging. Four exterior colours are offered including the eye-popping Inferno Red Crystal Pearl featured on my tester.

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Toyota's SCION headed to Canada

Toyota Canada has announced the SCION brand is finally coming to Canada in 2010.

"Young Canadians have been telling us they want SCION, and now their desire is within reach. SCION is an authentic brand, created to mesh with youthful tastes and sensibilities, and we're excited to expand our presence in Canada with new vehicles that offer a unique blend of flexibility, personalization, affordability and fuel efficiency," said Larry Hutchinson, Director of Toyota Canada Inc.

SCION attracted new customers to the Toyota family when the brand was launched in the United States in 2003.

SCION changed the purchase experience by allowing visitors to browse, investigate, research or just discover SCION entirely at their own pace through grassroots events and a highly interactive and constantly evolving website.

SCION will come to Canada with three vehicles:

The SCION xB will one of three models that will be available in Canada in 2010.

- The SCION tC compact sport coupe combines style and fun in a five-seater hatchback, topped with a remarkable panorama moon roof;
- The SCION xD blends personality in a subcompact five-door hatchback;
- The SCION xB compact five-door hatchback delivers astounding spaciousness wrapped in a cubic cladding that's game for urban adventure.

All SCION models are well equipped with a full range of features, from air conditioning and cruise control to audio systems.

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'09 Lexus ES 350 for all tastes

MODEL For 2009, the Lexus ES 350 comes generously equip-ped, featuring an inspired suite of performance, handling, safety, comfort and convenience features. What's more, a plethora of upgrade packages allow Lexus guests to tailor their ES 350 luxury sedan to their distinctive taste. This includes a Navigation Package, new for the 2009 model year that makes the benefits of a DVD-based navigation system with back-up camera even more accessible.

5-Door SE model shown, MSRP $16,270

The new incredibly fuel-efficient **2009 PONTIAC G3 WAVE.** That's right. No matter what you're driving right now, you're probably spending more time with the gas pump than you want to. Maybe you need to start hanging around with a G3 Wave. With 5.7L/100 KM on the highway and 7.9L/100 KM in the city[1], it's certainly not going to strengthen your relationship with the gas pump, but honestly, what did that old pump really do for you, anyway? The G3 Wave, on the other hand will give you an auxiliary audio input jack, five star rating for frontal impact[2], available side-impact airbags, optional OnStar® and the best coverage in Canada[3]. So go ahead, break old pumpy's heart. And never look back. **Cash Purchase Price at $11,698.***

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*Cash purchase price reflects discounts only available with cash purchase price offer and not available for purchase financing or lease offers. Freight ($1225) and PDI included. Licence, insurance, registration, PPSA, administration fees, duties and taxes not included. Dealers are free to set individual prices. See newspaper or your participating dealer for details. [1]When equipped with a 5-speed manual transmission, estimated 2009 ratings, based on GM testing in accordance with approved transport Canada test methods. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. [2]Equivalent Aveo model tested. US government star ratings are part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.safercar.gov). [3]Whichever comes first. See dealer for limited warranty details.

Covert tour

Get the lay of the land as a spy on London Walks' Spies' and Spycatchers' London tour. Every Saturday afternoon, a customized tour will lead aspiring agents around some of London's most secret places in the world of espionage and into the covert world of the MI5 and MI6 organizations. **VISITLONDON.COM**

Travel

Spying on London

When in London, try on a bit of the 007 lifestyle by hopping on a speedboat. Flying Fish Tours, which runs a thrill seeker's dream, will shoot you along the Thames on their Early Bird Scenic London tour — you'll pass the MI6 headquarters, shown at left, as well as many other London landmarks including Tower Bridge and the O2 arena. VISITLONDON.COM

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METRO WORLD NEWS

Above, some of the types of offerings and handicrafts that are used during the Day of the Dead celebrations in Mexico.

Days of the dead

Honouring the dead with gifts and offerings a popular annual November event in Mexico

GABRIELA GUTIÉRREZ
Metro World News

Since September, iconic Day of the Dead decorations have been appearing throughout Mexico's streets and stores. It's more than a marketing exercise, though — Mexicans take this holiday seriously.

Every year on Nov. 1 and 2, Mexican families take time out to remember, pray for, and host the spirits of loved ones who have passed away. Here's what happens:

On those days, graveyards become full of the living. It's like a party; visitors decorate the graves and tombs, and bring flowers, balloons — even Mariachis — with them.

In many little towns (pueblitos) the celebrations last into the night, and the graves are beautiful, surrounded by candles and offerings.

There are actually two days of the dead: The first one, celebrated on Nov. 1, is just for the "little deads" — the kids; the second, on Nov. 2, is for the grown-ups.

The annual celebration is the second biggest day for flower sales, out-purchased only by Mother's Day. The cempasuchitl, a sort of marigold, is a popular choice people use as an "ofrendas" made at the grave.

The night before the Day of the Dead, you should leave an ofrenda that includes the four elements for your deceased loved ones, otherwise they will not be waiting for you when you die.

Air is represented by the intense perfume of the cempasuchitl flowers — also known as the-Flower of the Dead — that will lead the dead ones to the ofrenda, and by paper streamers that made a nice noise in the wind.

Earth is symbolised by food and fruit, while fire is represented by candles that light the route for deceased loved ones to find their way back to you.

Water is left to quench the thirst of the deceased, who will need a drink after their long journey — and a sampling of their favourite tequila is usually also appreciated.

On the web

- *www.visitmexico.com*

RH PRODUCTIONS

Candy skulls are a popular gift during Day of the Dead festivities.

A picture of the dead, and all the things they enjoyed in life, from Playstations to comics, is also left so the deceased will feel at home.

People will traditionally give you a sugar or chocolate skull with your name on it that you can eat after the holiday.

You may also receive a humorous rhyming poem called a "calavera" (skull). It's a personalized ode, that ends in your being killed off by Death, who will be referred to by one of his many synonyms: the skinny, the cold, the bony, the "tilica" or the "Catrina,"

Another essential part of an ofrenda is the Bread of Dead, a delicious circle of bread with sugar that may also come with some bone-shaped decorations.

One of the most popular icons of the Day of the Dead is Catrina, an image created by the illustrator Jose Guadalupe Posada, but made famous by the great Mexican painter Diego Rivera (husband of Frida Kalho). It is the skeleton of a fancy lady, created during the Revolution era (1910-1920), which represents the death of high-class society. You can now find her image in paintings, handcrafts and even costumes.

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A traveller's truly spooky encounters

With Halloween a few days away, I've gotten to thinking about the supernatural realm. Here are a few of my favourite eerie experiences around the globe:

Hoia-Baciu Forest, Romania

The Hoia-Baciu Forest, located a few kilometers outside of Cluj Napaca in Romania, is rumoured to be a hot bed of unexplained activity.

Dubbed the Bermuda Triangle of Transylvania, it first gained international attention in 1968, when biologist Alexandru Sift captured a photo of a disc-shaped UFO. Since then, UFOs, apparitions, luminescent orbs, nocturnal lights and other unusual phenomena continue to be reported in this area. Trees that were normal a few years ago are now warped and gnarled, something that many say is a clear sign of an apparition. People who spend extended periods of time in the forest claim to experience anxiety, insomnia, excessive thirst, nausea, vomiting and headaches.

Witches Market, Bolivia

Located among the sidewalk vendors of Avenida Sagarnaga, the Mercado de las Brujas (the Witches Market) is where Bolivians come to buy all their ritualistic needs: amulets, herbs, ceramic charms and tools of the occult. There are no little green Martian men here, but you will find a most unusual souvenir — dried llama fetuses. Bolivians bury them under the foundation of their new homes for good fortune.

Though Bolivia is primarily a Catholic country, the popular religion is a blend of Christian ideology and pre-Colombian indigenous rituals. To this day, blessings and burning ceremonies are an important part of everyday Bolivian culture — witch or not.

JULIA DIMON/FOR METRO CANADA

Bolivians come to the Mercado de las Brujas (the Witches Market) to buy items including dried llama fetuses.

Honey Island Swamp, Louisiana

Not sure if it was the threat of poisonous snakes or the alligator infested waters, but there was definitely something mysterious about Louisiana's swamp lands. There have been eyewitness reports of a seven-foot-tall Bigfoot-type creature that lives in the area. They call it the Honey Island swamp monster. It's been described as: "half mammal, half reptile, all man-eater."

Of course, no one can prove its existence, but there are still many locals who dare not enter the swamps alone.

Nazca Lines, Peru

The Nazca Lines, found in the southwestern part of Peru, are massive triangles, trapezoids and animal figures carved in precise patterns on the desert floor.

Flying over this UNESCO world heritage site, visitors will see the shape of a hummingbird, a condor, a whale, a monkey and, what some say looks like a googly-eyed astronaut.

Despite years of scientific research, these "lines" remain a mystery. Astrological calendar, ancient art, a way to communicate with the Gods, evidence of alien activity? No one knows.

The Nazca Lines have spawned many theories but few conclusions. Happy Halloween!

Julia Dimon is co-host of Word Travels, airing on OLN; juliadimon.com.

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Haunted house

Vancouver's Hycroft Mansion is among Canada's most mysterious sites, according to Travelocity and IgoUgo. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Made famous worldwide in a song, Ipanema is among Brazil's most well-known beaches.

Beachy Brazil

BRUNO GHETTI
Metro World News

It is not an easy task to pick out only a few of the hundreds or even thousands of astonishing beaches along the Brazilian coastline.

Be it a long white stretch of sand hugged by impressive cliffs or a small shore in a serene bay, Brazil's coast reveals a bounty of treasures, and even some corners of paradise still to be discovered. Just some suggestions from a list of striking beauties.

Pontal do Atalaia Beacy, Arraial do Cabo, Rio de Jenairo State: Arraial do Cabo is a very small, quiet resort less than two hour's drive from Rio, blessed with an idyllic beach called Pontal do Atalaia. The precarious walk down to the beach is rewarded with fabulous views, white sand and the clearest blue waters in the region, perfect for diving or snorkelling. Arraial do Cabos' offers a cosy atmosphere and stunning environment as well as low prices. Location: Arraial do Cabo, 2-hour-drive away from Rio de Janeiro. Bus from Novo Rio bus Station.

Canoa Quebrada, Ceará State, Northeastern Brazil: Canoa Quebrada — broken boat, in Portuguese — is a stunning resort, famous for its deep blue sea and bright sunny weather all year round. Dunes, cliffs and rust-coloured sand make this place a resource of peace and pleasure. This remote fishing village was "found" by hippies then became a popular tourist destination in the '70s. But despite being one of the busiest resorts in Ceará, especially in summertime, this lovely resort has lost none of its charm. Location: 150 km away from Fortaleza, the state capital of Ceará. Buses to Acati and then to Canoa.

Praia da Princesa, Ilha do Algodoal, Pará State, Northern Brazil: Still unknown to most Brazilians due to its remote location off the northeastern coast, this island is named Ilha do Algodoal because of the abundance of a native plant called algodao de sede — cotton silk — and the white sand beaches that resemble cotton fields — algodoal means cotton in Portuguese. Praia da Princesa is the most beautiful beach on the island. This is an isolated spot so expect fabulous swimming in the sea or bays, boating, trekking and bike riding, but fairly basic facilities. Location: 163 km by bus from Belem to the city of Maruda, then a 40 minutes boat trip to Algodoal Island.

Praia dos Carneiros, Tamandaré, Pernambuco State: Praia dos Carneiros — The Sheep Beach — looks the same as it did a hundred years ago. The ruins of an old church, Chapel of St. Benedictus, facing the sea shows how slowly time passes in this piece of the Brazilian coast. A five-kilometre-long stretch of white sand lined with coconut trees gives this astonishing beach an exotic atmosphere. Location: 114 km away from Recife, the state capital of Pernambuco, in the village of Tamandaré.

Ipanema

- Made famous worldwide thanks to the song, The Girl from Ipanema, by Tom Jobim and Vinicius de Moraes, Ipanema is undoubtedly the most charming place in Rio de Janeiro, sandwiched between green mountains and blue sea on the famous Vieira Souto Avenue. The neighbourhood is the trendiest in Rio, and the beach is a stage where gorgeous girls and guys come to show off their tanned athletic bodies.

Hay baths are just one of the spa treatments in South Tyrol

EMMA E. FORREST
Metro World News

ITALY Before visiting the mountains of South Tyrol, I had thought that being basted in herbs and gently baked for 20 minutes was something that only happened to a leg of lamb.

But in this Italian region, the hay bath is not a culinary technique, it's a traditional well-being experience, designed to soothe away your aches and pains.

Local Ladin farmers originally discovered the restorative benefits of hay while mowing the high meadows. After a day of heavy work, they would sleep in the hay overnight and wake up feeling rejuvenated and free of aches and pains.

Of course, you're more likely to enjoy it as the perfect cure after a hard day trekking up the mountains or skiing down their slopes.

You're also more likely to experience it in a hotel than a barn. Stay on a farm and you might soak in a bath full of freshly-cut hay. But in most hotels, your spa therapist will slather you in a mix of hay and mud, and wrap you in plastic, and lower you onto a warm waterbed, where you'll float in your cocoon as you absorb the benefits of the hay.

Plan your health and beauty retreat and you can follow a course of treatments in a specific hotel, and marinate in their family recipes. The area's most celebrated beauty guru, Daniela Steiner, set up her brand of spa at her family's idyllic luxury hotel, the Rosa Alpina in San Cassiano. The oils for these pampering treatments use the healing powers of arnica flowers, picked from the meadows on their estate every July.

On the web

- *rosalpina.it*
- *feldmuellerhof.com*
- *cron4.it*
- *thermemeran.it*
- *suedtirol.info*

Need to know

- Getting there: A number of airlines fly daily to Innsbruck and Venice, which is two hours by car from the area.
- Currency: Euros.
- Languages: German, Italian and Ladin.

At Feldmullerhof, the hip family-run eco-design hotel in Campo Tures, they send you off on a hike to collect the hay that you'll soak in. If you don't fancy hay, there are plenty of other treatments using local ingredients including apple, grapes, wine, pine needles and honey, and there are healing waters to absorb too.

Soak in the sulphur baths in Bath Bergall, Olang, float in the radioactive springs of Bath Salomonsbrunn, Antholz or lounge in the saltwater outdoor pool at the Cron 4 health complex in the pretty town of Brunico.

At the thermal baths in Merano, you can bathe in radioactive mineral water, which is meant to soothe muscles, ease joints and improve breathing. But if that sounds too scary, you can have a relaxing massage with South Tyrolean chestnut and butchers broom cream, tackle your cellulite with a brine bath with chestnut extracts, or stimulate your circulation with a sheeps wool bath.

All this pampering is not just for girls either. The benefits of edelweiss, thyme, marigold and sage have been harnessed by the most alpha of men in South Tyrol.

Rugged mountaineer, Reinhold Messner, who has climbed some of the highest peaks in the world, has launched his own range of fragrances and beauty products, Messner Mountain Moments. The 14 lotions and potions correspond to the number of "eight-thousanders" — mountains exceeding 8,000 metres altitude — that Messner has conquered.

Hay baths are among the spa treatments in Italy's Tyrol region.

Pricing at par
A tumbling Canadian dollar has meant that some holidays are costing consumers up to 20 per cent more than they would have a just few weeks ago. But Scenic Tours says that for now it's continuing to price all of its trips with the Canadian and U.S. dollars at par; check out *scenictours.com* for details. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Between the sky and sea

French Caribbean island a jungle village dream

BENEDICTE LORENZEN
for Metro World

Up, up, up climbs the car along narrow, twisted mountain roads. The sound of locusts blends in with the noise of the overexerted engine that struggles to ascend the mountain. Way up on the mountain there is a hotel that bears no resemblance to the palatial hotels that lodge tourists on the French island of Guadeloupe.

At the top of the mountain, 10 brightly-coloured wooden huts gleam amongst the banana palms. Each nail has been hammered in by Georges Clement, a French carpenter who decided to leave his job and the metropolitan country and venture to Guadeloupe in 1990, where the island had been devastated by a cyclone. After having helped rebuild the Caribbean paradise, he chose to fulfill an old childhood dream and built his own jungle village, Habitation Tendacayou.

The village's garden is enveloped in the scent of jasmine flowers, its lush tropical greenery evoking childhood reveries of Tarzan.

Seventeen years later, the village's garden is enveloped in the scent of jasmine flowers, its lush tropical greenery evoking childhood reveries of Tarzan. In one of the many luxuriant trees there is a treehouse with a bridge that leads to another treetop where guests can shower with a clear view of the Caribbean Ocean.

On a map, the island of Guadeloupe looks like a butterfly spreading its wings from east to west. As is often the case in these latitudes, the rum flows as freely and carefree as the calypso music and the bananas come fresh off the trees. The beaches are white with swaying palm trees and turquoise water.

It may look like a Caribbean postcard, but the envelope is French. Being a colony, the official language is French, most signs are in French and French mainlanders have taken Guadeloupe to heart as their very own heavenly getaway.

The two main islands of this French-Caribbean archipelago are only separated by the channel, Riviere Salée. The capital is Point a Pitré a buzzing city located on the island of Grand-Terre with many lively markets selling spices, fresh vegetables, fish and warm colourful Caribbean art. Away from the city, Grand Terre offers endless sugarcane fields and viewpoints over the shimmering waves that crash against the mountainside so forcefully that water gushes towards the sky like Icelandic geysers.

Although it only takes a few seconds to cross the channel to the neighbouring island of Basse-Terre, the landscape is completely different, with sugarcane fields replaced by lush rainforests.

The first European to set foot on this island was Christopher Columbus, who named it after a famous icon of Virgin Mary. Up until then, the indigenous people used a much more appropriate name for this breathtaking place: "Karukera" or "The Island of Beautiful Waters".

Underneath the sea surface is an underwater zoo, where fish of all shapes and colours stare at you through the corals as you lazily propel yourself through this watery world.

Celebrated marine biologist Jacques Cousteau declared Pigeon Island, off the mainland's west coast, one of the best diving spots in the world. In return, he is honoured with an underwater statue of him that rests upon the soft sandy seabed.

The waters around Guadeloupe guard several secrets. The mangroves, a colossal nature reserve stretching deep into the ocean, are found north of the channel Riviere Salée. Although the deep blue colour of the water verifies that this is indeed the ocean, small forests crop up throughout it. When you jump out of the motorboat, you realize that the water is only knee-high, even though you are several kilometres offshore. The swampy mangrove bottoms foster shellfish whose names have probably never found their way into mainstream biology books.

For the adventurous type, the mangroves offer a bit of Robinson Crusoe experience. La Biché is a tiny island, no bigger than a typical townhouse yard and the only building is a ramshackle tin shed. Nonetheless, you can sit cross-legged on the beach and marvel at the peculiar sight, where ocean and forest unite.

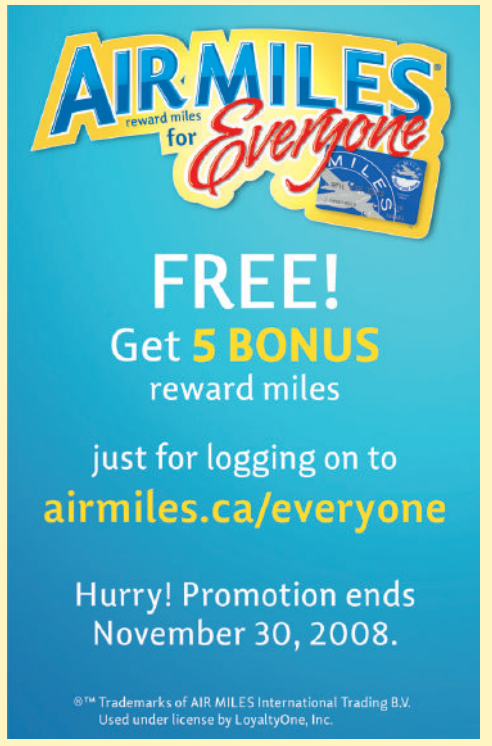
Guadeloupe is also a real gem for those who prefer land-based experiences. On hilly Basse-Terre the rainforest stretches its branches out beyond the cliffs towards the volcano La Soufrière, commonly known as "The Old Lady". Even if she may be capricious, she has lain dormant since 1976. On the green sides of La Soufrière, daredevils can hike their way up mountain paths and feel the heat from the volcano. But be sure to wear your best hiking boots and be careful if you have problems with your knees — the landscape is not exactly user-friendly with its slippery clay surface.

Elsewhere, there are 30,000 hectares of rainforest to explore on Basse-Terre. The thousands of trees host a rich animal life, but there are no dangerous species; instead you can watch a gecko change colour or have the chilling experience of seeing an eight centimetre-long spider.

The rainforest is a gigantic amusement park: sit on the top of a waterfall and let your body glide down with the gushing water through a small waterhole. The tingling sensation easily beats even the most amazing water roller coaster. An ingenious system of suspension bridges are built way up in the treetops and allows you to walk about 30 metres above ground. There are mountain sides to jump out from or rocky paths to hike on.

Back in the jungle hotel up on the mountain-top, the guests have gathered in the adjacent restaurant, where the carpenter's wife is serving oceanic experiences. While the guests enjoy the Caribbean specialities, a couple of local musicians come into the restaurant.

"Isn't she leeeuuuvleeeyy, isn't she weeeuunderful?" Stevie Wonder in an unmistakably French rendition seeps through the air at Poisson Rouge, the restaurant run by Georges' wife, Sylvie. If he is singing about Guadeloupe, the answer is easy: Yes! She is both lovely and wonderful.



DAVID MADISON

View from Fort Napoleon of the town of Bourg on Terre-de-Haute, Iles des Saintes, Guadeloupe with boats moored in harbour.

SYLVAIN GRANDADAM

Palm trees along the shore Ile des Saintes, Guadeloupe.

Planning a trip?
Need to know facts

- How to get there: fly direct via or from Paris, Miami, New York, San Juan (Puerto Rico) and other Caribbean islands. Europeans don't need a visa as Guadeloupe is part of France, and a member of the EU.
- Where to stay: Habitation Tendacayou (ww.tendacayou.com). Room rates €80 - 400 euros high season, between 15/12 - 15/05.
- Currency: Euros.
- Language: French.
- When to go: December and June. Hurricane season is July to November.

Stallone wants to bring Rambo back

Sylvester Stallone is plotting to bring grizzled Vietnam veteran John Rambo back for a fifth installment of the action movie franchise. "Rambo hopefully will be back. We've just got to give you guys a story that's worthwhile," Stallone said. IMDB.COM

Entertainment

No to Hairspray

John Travolta has decided not to reprise his role as Edna Turnblad in a sequel to movie musical Hairspray. "I think once is enough. I did it and I did it well, but I'm not a big sequel guy." IMDB.COM

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

Led Zeppelin could tour minus Plant

MUSIC

Plant

British rockers Led Zeppelin are looking at the possibility of touring and recording without frontman Robert Plant, who has resisted pressure to reunite with his former bandmates, the BBC reported.

The band, one of the most influential in rock music, briefly regrouped for a charity concert in London in December, 2007.

Guitarist Jimmy Page and bassist/instrumentalist John Paul Jones are keen to return to the stage, as is drummer Jason Bonham, the son of original member John who died in 1980.

Manson victim subject of doc

MOVIES Jay Sebring, the Hollywood hairstylist murdered by Charles Manson's followers in 1969, will be the subject of a documentary directed by his nephew.

Anthony DiMaria hopes to have the project released in 2009. It will include interviews with Sebring's protege, Joe Torrenueva and Debra Tate, younger sister of actress Sharon Tate. REUTERS

In brief

MOVIES A movie drama about the life of the Prophet Mohammad is to go into production soon. The Messenger of Peace will be a remake of Moustapha Akkad's The Message, a 1977 Hollywood classic starring Anthony Quinn. REUTERS

Remaking horror classics

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Even though I'm no longer able to get pillowcases full of free candy simply for putting on a sweaty latex mask, I still love Halloween. After all, it's the only time of the year when it's acceptable to watch the most disturbing and terrifying movies ever made.

Unfortunately, in recent years many horror-film lovers have found themselves bored with the tales of terror that have been filling the multiplexes.

Normally, audiences are limited to the latest Saw sequel, the hodge-podging of past horror films into new releases — like The Haunting of Molly Hartley, in theatres Friday — and of course remakes of scary movie classics.

The Swedish horror Let the Right One In opens in select Canadian theatres on Friday, but Hollywood is already planning a remake.

It's easy to understand why remakes are being cranked out — the movies have a built-in audience thanks to brand loyalty — but that doesn't change the fact that all the Texas Chainsaw Massacre and Grudge Xeroxes are tainting the memory of the originals. Here are some particularly frustrating remakes coming to screens in the months ahead:

- **Friday The 13th (February 2009)**: Hockey mask connoisseur Jason Voorhees has already been killing horny teens in eleven films, yet he is being resurrected to crank out a remake. I can't help but wonder how Jason will find new and interesting ways to slaughter talent-starved young actors when he already has more than 100 kills under his belt.
- **Last House On The Left (March 2009)**: It seems like Wes Craven's entire back catalogue is in development for "re-imagining." The most surprising of these projects has to be Last House On The Left, a 1972 rape-revenge horror that still can't be shown uncut in Britain. Despite the endless controversy, the film is about to be redressed for new audiences.
- **A Nightmare On Elm Street (2010)**: Craven's 1984 horror became an instant classic for its brilliant conceit of a murderer who hunts teens in their dreams. Freddy quickly became a cultural icon, with countless sequels. There's no denying that the success of the film came down to two major players: Craven and star Robert England. Neither is involved in the remake. With any luck, audiences won't be either.
- **Let The Right One In (TBA)**: Tomas Alfredson's brilliant teenage vampire/coming of age movie hits Canadian theatres on Friday, but a Hollywood remake is already underway with Cloverfield director Matt Reeves in charge. One of the most original and surprisingly touching horror movies in years, it's difficult to imagine a remake capturing the spirit of the original. I predict Dakota Fanning miscast in the lead role — and two hours of sleeping in the theater from me.

Snow Patrol chasing love

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

With the American election days away, it's impossible to have a conversation without mentioning the two people up for the presidency — Barack Obama and John McCain.

But it's not just political analysts or news junkies who've got an opinion on who should win — even rock superstars Snow Patrol have something to say.

"If Barack Obama wins it's going to be a revolution," says drummer Jonny Quinn. "We believe what he believes in."

Quinn is such a fan that he and the rest of the band — singer Gary Lightbody, bassist Paul Wilson, guitarist Nathan Connolly and keyboardist Tom Simpson — saw Obama speak in Berlin during his tour of Europe. "He did one of the most majestic speeches," says Quinn. "There were half a million people there, it was amazing."

Clearly, like pretty much everyone else, Quinn is deeply immersed in the presidential race. But the U.K. band shied away from espousing its political beliefs on its new record A Hundred Millions Suns — in stores this week. Instead, the five-piece touched on a subject it has written about before: Love.

This time around, however, the tunes aren't slow, moping tracks about breakups, but rather, upbeat rockers about how great love is. It's a marked departure from these perennial relationship losers, and Quinn is concerned that their happier outlook on life might not fly with their fans.

"Gary is totally in love," says Quinn, explaining why the band has taken a turn toward the positive. "But people love buying our records to cry to it. This isn't tested, so we don't know how it will be received."

Snow Patrol takes a turn toward the positive with its new album, A Hundred Million Suns, which was released this week.

Still, after its last album, the massively popular Eyes Open, the band needed to change or risk being perceived as pandering to the almighty dollar.

"Everyone had to push themselves, which is always challenging because there's pressure when you've sold a lot of records, but we don't hide our agenda. We don't think we should be bigger than Coldplay, we just have to steer the ship the way we do it."

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Singleton pulls out of A-Team project
Director John Singleton has pulled out of plans for a movie version of 1980s TV hit The A-Team, after the project was postponed, according to reports. The filmmaker had signed to direct the picture, which was scheduled for release in June 2009. IMDB.COM

Hollywood's creepiest stars

Marilyn Manson, Michael Jackson and O.J. Simpson top the list

Want a creepy celebrity to scare trick-or-treaters this Halloween? You could do no better than rocker Marilyn Manson, and you'd be really lucky to land Michael Jackson. But O.J. Simpson? Sorry, he's in jail.

Those three topped a list of the 20 creepiest celebrities, released by market research firm e-Poll, which tracks the popularity of actors, musicians and others for Hollywood's major film and TV studios and other companies.

Manson was No. 1 with an overall creep factor of 76 per cent and a popularity rating of just nine percent, meaning that more than three-quarters of people responding to e-Poll found him creepy and only nine per cent found him appealing.

He was followed by Jackson with 67 per cent creepy/14 per cent appeal, and third was Simpson who was recently convicted of robbery and kidnapping charges in Las Vegas. He had a 59 per cent creepy/three per cent appeal rating.

There are two kinds of creepy in Hollywood celebrity, explained e-Poll's chief executive Gerry Philpott.

There are the kind — like the three above — from whom some people might run and then there are types like horror novelist Stephen King, whom many people find fascinating precisely because they are spooky.

King made the list at No. 4 with a creep factor of 51 per cent but strong fan appeal of 61 per cent.

"Who would you rather have a beer with: Stephen King or Andy Dick?," said Philpott, referring to the comedian who recently pleaded guilty to battery in California for pulling down a teenage girl's top in a sports bar.

Dick, 42, was No. 6 on the list with a creep factor of 44 and an appeal rating of just 17. He was preceded in the No. 5 spot by radio shock jock Howard Stern with a creepiness rating of 45 and popular appeal of just 13.

Some celebrities, such as Manson, make a name for themselves outside mainstream pop culture, so it's OK to be creepy, said Philpott. Then there are others, like director Woody Allen, who would probably prefer people don't think of them as creeps. He made the list at No. 16.

Finally, there is a practical side to being a celebrity creep, Philpott said. When spookiness is required, it is easier to get a job, and in this gloomy economy, that is a good thing. REUTERS

GETTY IMAGES/FILE

Marilyn Manson, above, and Michael Jackson are two of Hollywood's creepiest celebrities, according to a list of the 20 creepiest celebrities, released by market research firm e-Poll.

GETTY IMAGES/FILE

Brent Butt gets the Hiccups in Vancouver

HollywoodNorth

Andrea Woo
andrea.woo@metronews.ca

With Canada's No. 1 sitcom, **Corner Gas**, currently in its sixth and final season, creator and star **Brent Butt** is in Vancouver working on a pilot for **Hiccups**, a new half-hour comedy series executive produced by **Laura Lightbown** (**Intelligence**, **Da Vinci's Inquest**) and **David Storey**. According to the Hollywood Reporter, Butt's wife and Corner Gas co-star **Nancy Robertson** will play a children's author with anger issues who ends up recruiting "a life coach with no evident training or credentials." The pilot, which was ordered by CTV earlier this month, began Monday and wraps Friday.

Another new Canadian series, **Less Than Kind**, premiered earlier this month on Citytv and one cast member who's been generating some buzz among lady folks is Vancouver-born actor **Benjamin Arthur**. The Vancouver Film School graduate plays Josh Bletcher, a handsome but failing actor who is the older brother of protagonist Sheldon, a smart, fat kid who is the only normal person in a dysfunctional Winnipeg family. Arthur, who used to be a server at Section 3 in Yaletown, has also been nominated by TV Guide as one of the 50 hottest men on fall TV.

And to make it a Canadian television hat trick: The second season of **The Guard** premiers today on Global. Shot in Squamish, the one-hour action drama series follows a team of Coast Guard rescuers who endure the dangers of life out on the Pacific Ocean while dealing with personal issues as well.

Homegrown talent includes **Steve Bacic** (who was born in Windsor, Ont., and launched his career guest starring on the Vancouver-shot, Johnny-Depp-driven **21 Jump Street**) and Sudbury, Ont.-born **Sonya Salomaa**, who has lived all over B.C., in Salmon Arm, Prince George, Victoria and Vancouver.

Andrea Woo is a Vancouver-based news and entertainment reporter.

Benjamin Arthur, left, and Brent Butt, right.

Brody on the run in Courier action

Brody

CASTING Adrien Brody will be chased by cops and crime bosses as the title character in The Courier.

The action tale centres on a daredevil courier trying to deliver a briefcase to an underworld figure who can't be found.

Picasso withdrawn from Sotheby's

ART Auctioneer Sotheby's has abruptly withdrawn a Picasso cubist painting that was set to be auctioned as part of an impressionist and modern art sale on Nov. 3, the New York Times reported.

Arlequin (1909), which the auction house estimated at more than $30 million US, was one of the most expensive works in a high-profile sale that will kick off the important fall art season, the paper said. REUTERS

In brief

CASTING Geoffrey Rush is adding missionary priest to his resume, signing on to the cast of the indigenous musical "Bran Nue Dae," producers said Monday. Rush will co-star with aboriginal actor Ernie Dingo and Australian musicians Missy Higgins and Dan Sultan in what he calls a "kick-arse road movie.

CASTING Weeds star Mary-Louise Parker will begin a May/December romance with Michael Douglas in Solitary, an indie drama co-starring Susan Sarandon, Danny DeVito and Jenna Fischer. Parker will play a high-powered society belle. REUTERS

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Canada

Games of La Francophonie
Lebanon 2009

The Canadian delegation at the Games of La Francophonie is made up of three distinct teams: Canada, Canada-Quebec and Canada-New Brunswick. Professional artists under 35 years of age as of September 27, 2009, have a Canadian citizenship and are interested in representing **Team Canada** in the cultural competitions, should register now.

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Gatineau, QC J9H 0A4
Tel. (toll-free): 1-866-955-2009
E-mail: info@francophonie2009.ca
Website: www.pch.gc.ca/francophonie2009

Canada

Singer looks step ahead

She's only on the second single from her gold-certified Little Voices album, but Sara Bareilles is thinking about her next release "all the time."

CARLOS ALVAREZ/GETTY IMAGES

Sara Bareilles

"I've done some writing for it," said the singer-songwriter, who has followed up her chart-topping single Love Song with the new tune Bottle it Up.

"I have some songs ready to go. I'm thinking about the songs that didn't make it on the first record to try and include a couple of those as well," she told Billboard.com.

Bareilles — who's performing the new songs August Moon and Little Voice (yes, it didn't make it onto the album of the same name) at her shows — is keenly aware of the high expectations that will greet her next album.

"I'm just hoping to feel as proud of this next record and as connected to it as I did the first ... I'm just hoping the second one can expand on what's been put out there and just go a little deeper."

Bareilles will be going a little deeper into Little Voices before she goes into a recording studio again, however. A third single, Gravity — the album's oldest song — is on the runway, and she has U.S. and European dates booked into late November. "It'd be nice at some point to get to a place where you can relax a little bit," she said, quickly adding that the lament "is not a woe-is-me story."

"This whole experience has been one big, pleasant surprise." REUTERS

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– Sara Bareilles

CBS pulls the Ex List
Just call it the ex-Ex List. CBS is pulling the struggling freshman drama off its schedule, effective immediately. Ex List stars Elizabeth Reaser, right. EW.COM

Second chance shows

FOX PHOTO

The state of the economy and the effects of the writers' strike have given shows like Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles a second chance.

IntelleVision

YOU READ IT HERE FIRST: The poor economy and the lingering effects of the Hollywood writers' strike is giving struggling shows a second chance they might otherwise not have gotten, according to a story by the Hollywood Reporter.

Of course, you already knew that if you'd read this column last week (nyah nyah nyah), but it's one of those factoids of glaring obviousness, so I'll give them a pass this time. "No execs would talk on the record," said the Reporter, which means bingo, bullseye and boo-yah in Hollywood calculus, and the story went on to elaborate that "the economic crisis, combined with the cost of marketing a new series, the lack of new programming inventory because of the WGA strike and the anticipated difficulty of locking down new advertiser commitments, has networks inclined to play it safe."

The three shows highlighted by the story — NBC's Knight Rider, ABC's Private Practice and Fox's Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles — have all been underperforming in ratings, and would have been cut loose by their networks during any sort of healthy TV season, especially Fox, whose impatience with new shows that fail to deliver is as furious as a British nanny toilet-training a 10-year-old.

"Networks are loath to exit the fall without at least one series to tout as a success," the Reporter notes. "Plus, the writers strike ... has delayed quality midseason replacements. And with ratings declining overall because of increasing DVR penetration and audience erosion to cable networks and the Internet, the bar for success keeps being lowered."

All you have to do is throw in an Old Testament plague that only targets executives at the big four networks, and you've got something like a perfect storm of media extinction, as far as I can see.

Back when we were being treated to the spectacle of millionaire writer/actor/producer types walking the picket lines and pretending they were coal miners striking to get a pay raise that would let them pay for their coffin after they die from black lung, there was some speculation that the writers' strike would turbocharge the march to extinction for network broadcast television. Hollywood optimists imagined that it would come in the shape of creatively frustrated writers and their creative allies turning to the Internet to create their own content delivery systems. That was too much like work for Hollywood's bohemian guilds, but the death march picked up the pace nonetheless, and now it looks like the first of the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse has arrived, in the deceiving form of KITT the Wonder Car.

"Networks are loath to exit the fall without at least one series to tout as a success."
Hollywood Reporter

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

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In brief

NEW SEASON A&E Network has picked up a second season of its drama series The Cleaner, which stars Benjamin Bratt as a real-life extreme interventionist. Production will begin shortly on 13 episodes slated to premiere next year. Cleaner marked A&E's first scripted series in more than six years when it debuted in July.

REUTERS

See complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and purchase tickets at metronews.ca/movies

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primetime 10/29/08	251	308	3 CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Little Mosque	Sophie (N)	CBC News: the fifth estate (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		(:05) The Hour
	255	358	6 JOY	E! News	The Insider	Name Is Earl	Deal or No Deal (iTV) (N) (CC)			Scream: Hollywood Story		News (N)
	254	-	8 M	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Mandarin News		Cantonese News (N)		Punjabi News (In Punjabi N)		Metropia
	250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Hollywood	So You Think You Can Dance Canada (N)		Big Bang Th		CSI: NY "The Cost of Living"		News (N)
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	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Bones (CC)		NCIS "Murder 2.0" (N) (CC)		The Guard "The Hold" (CC)		News (N)
	256	389	12 VI	Robson Arms	TMZ (N) (CC)	America's Next Top Model (N)		Private Practice "Past Tense"		(:01) Dirty Sexy Money (N)		News (CC)
	253	359	13 CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Secret Life of American Teen		Stylista "Hidden Gems" (N)		Lipstick Jungle (N) (CC)		EP Daily
	-	-	14 CW	Deal-No Deal	Deal-No Deal	America's Next Top Model (N)		Stylista "Hidden Gems" (N)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Obama	Old Christine	Criminal Minds (N) (CC)		CSI: NY "The Cost of Living"		News (N)
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Obama	Deal or No Deal (iTV) (N) (CC)			Lipstick Jungle (N) (CC)		News (N)
	602	568	19 W	Will & Grace	Friends (CC)	Grocery	Maxed Out	Supersize vs. Superskinny		Gok's Fashion Fix		Style by Jury
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Pushing Daisies (N) (CC)		Private Practice "Past Tense"		(:01) Dirty Sexy Money (N)		News (N)
	-	-	28 KVOS	M*A*S*H	Seinfeld	Groundhog Day ★★ (1993) Bill Murray, Andie MacDowell.				King	Still Standing	Scrubs (CC)
	291	383	27 PBS	Steves Europe	Wings-Canada	Ride Along the Lincoln		Great Performances (N) (CC)			Aimee's Cross	Pioneers-Aviat
	290	382	23 FOX	MLB Baseball: World Series Game 6			Obama	King of Hill	Family Guy	News (N) (CC)		Family Guy
	-	364	45 PBS	Great Performances (N) (CC)			Being Served	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		Ride Along the Lincoln	
	296	654	34 SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	Punk'd (CC)	South Park	Cheers (CC)	Half & Half	The Insider	Entertainment	Paid Program
	298	653	35 TLA	Two/Half Men	NBA Basketball Los Angeles Lakers at Los Angeles Clippers. (Live) (CC)					KTLA Prime News (CC)		Next Model
	295	651	36 WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	According-Jim	Sex and-City	Friends (CC)	Will & Grace	My Wife-Kids
	297	652	37 WPX	CW11 News at Ten (N) (CC)		Two/Half Men	Friends (CC)	Sex and-City	Will & Grace	According-Jim	Frasier (CC)	Odd Couple
	199	311	76 STR	News (N)	News		Late Show-Letterman		(:37) Kitchen Nightmares		Late Late Show	
news	502	390	29 NW	Monarchy: The Royal Family		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National		Monarchy: The Royal Family		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	MLB Baseball: World Series Game 6 -- Phillies at Rays				Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)			In This Corner	Boxing Bernard Hopkins vs. Kelly Pavlik. (CC)				SportsCentre
	411	457	49 OLN	Word Travels	Globe Guides	Pilot Guides "Java; Sumatra"		Don't Forget Your Passport		Ed's Up (CC)	Adventures	Word Travels
	410	403	54 SCR	Score Tonight		Hardcore Hockey Talk		Final Score	Final Score	Sports Rage		Final Score
	417	406	55 SC	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pinks	Pass Time	Am. Thunder	Am. Thunder	Pinks	Pinks Out	Wrecked
	416	409	144 GLF	Fútbol Alemán		Gol TV News		Art of Football	Art of Football	Paid Program	Art of Football	Gol TV News
family	552	543	25 YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Home Imp.	Sabrina-Witch	Sabrina-Witch	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Adrenaline	Mystery Hnt.
	555	545	50 TEL	Grim Adv	Ghosts	Ghosts	6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	The Critic	Chicken	Lucy Devil
	557	541	51 FAM	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	553	546	65 TRE	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie	Beren. Bears	Babar (CC)	Backyard	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!	Franklin	Comfy Couch
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Into the Wild	Meerkat	Chinese School (N) (CC)		The Three Tenors: The Original		1990 Concert (N) (CC)		Montreal Jazz
	575	583	20 CMT	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Ult. Coyote Ugly Search		Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Hope & Faith
	570	580	42 MM	Video on Trial	Video on Trial	Pimp My Ride	Pimp My Ride	Punk'd (CC)	Pimp My Ride	Pimp My Ride	Live at Much "Pink" Pink.	
	600	564	43 H&G	Million Dollar Listing (CC)		Holmes on Homes (CC)		Mansions	The Stagers	Property	Unsellable	$1M Listing
	615	520	61 A&E	Parking Wars "The Lost Pilot"		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	Bounty Hunter	Dog the Bounty Hunter (CC)		Bounty Hunter	Parking Wars
	628	584	62 SPKE	The Ultimate Fighter (N)		The Ultimate Fighter		CSI: NY "Raising Shane"		Star Trek: Voyager (CC)		Deep Space 9
	521	560	64 TLC	Six for Road	Six for Road	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate Plus 8 (CC)		Six for Road	Six for Road	Jon & Kate
	616	522	63 SHO	Kink in Hair	Kink in Hair	Durham County (CC)		Billable Hours	G-Spot (CC)	Starter Wife (N) (CC)		House (CC)
	620	523	40 BVO	Arts & Minds	The Achievers	Law & Order "True North"		Without a Trace (CC)		Who Is Cletis Tout? ★★ (2001) (CC)		
	601	562	41 SLC	Real Housewives of NYC		Last 10	Bulging Brides	Work Out "Hit the Wall"		Real Housewives of NYC		Trading Sp
	520	505	42 DIS	Mayday Two 737 crashes.		Daily Planet (CC)		MythBusters "Vodka Myths"		Cash Cab	Factory Made	Mayday (CC)
	522	506	44 HIS	NCIS "The Weak Link" (CC)		Cities of the Underworld		The Real Blair Witch (CC)		NCIS "The Weak Link" (CC)		Crime Stories
	627	528	45 SPC	Ghost Hunters International		Stargate SG-1 "The Quest"		Lost "... And Found" (CC)		Star Trek: Deep Space Nine		Star Trek
	294	650	47 TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	Seinfeld	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	Pay It Forward ★★ (2000, Drama) Kevin Spacey. (CC) (DVS)			
	619	525	48 TROP	Beverly Hills, 90210 (CC)		Reality	What	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	'70s Show	Family Guy
	603	561	69 FN	Dinner	Dinner	Restaurant Makeover (CC)		Challenge "Extreme Cakes"		Iron Chef America		Dinner
	626	547	57 COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs (CC)		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Comedy Inc.	RENO 911! (N)	Daily Show
	320	621	60 CEN	I Am Legend ★★★ (2007) Will Smith.			Pan's	True Blood (CC)		Dexter "Turning Biminese"		Smokin' Aces
	581	566	101 MTV	Real World-Road Rules		MTV Live	After	Man and Wife	Exiled (CC)	Real World-Road Rules		MTV Live
	261	394	102 V	Enigma (CC)		Hope Island (CC)		Summer Wine	Dinnerladies	Darling Buds of May (CC)		Paid Program
	-	-	103 MUL	Matchmaker	Mom's-Upset	Van. Nights	Iranian Pop	Sabor Latino		Hola Que Tal		Patrol World

critics'corner

The New Adventures of Old Christine
The green-eyed monster rears its ugly head yet again. Christine and Barb (Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Wanda Sykes) go out on a casual double date with two men they met at a video store, but when one of the dates goes better than the other, jealousy arises. How does this happen? We can't even find the movies we're looking for at the video store; how did they find dates? Emily Rutherfurd and Tim DeKay (aka Bizarro Jerry on "Seinfeld") also appear. 8:30 PM on CBS

Private Practice
Who's in charge here? You'll be surprised at the outcome of an election to determine who runs the practice — and so will the candidates, Sam and Naomi (Taye Diggs, Audra McDonald). Addison (Kate Walsh) treats an Afghan girl who wants to keep her past a secret. Speaking of secrets, Cooper's (Paul Adelstein) personal life catches up with him in the new episode "Past Tense." 9 PM on ABC

New baby
Annabeth Gish of Showtime's Brotherhood and husband Wade Allen welcomed their second child, son Enzo Edward Allen. Enzo was born Saturday night in Rhode Island and weighed 7 lbs. **PEOPLE.COM**

Celebrity Buzz

Friends fret over Lindsay's weight

PEOPLE Lindsay Lohan has sparked concerns for her health after losing 14 lbs, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actress, who denied rumours she was suffering from an eating disorder after dropping to a Size 0 three years ago, has worried pals who have seen her Size 10-12 frame reduced to a tiny Size 6.

"She is thinner than ever and we are concerned she is taking it too far," a source told Britain's Star magazine. "Lindsay's weight has always fluctuated, but since falling in love with Samantha Ronson, who is naturally very slim, Lindsay seems desperate to lose more weight."

Lohan has reportedly insisted she has a healthy diet which includes "drinking buckets of green tea" and "eating fresh fruit smoothies with aloe vera, sushi, pasta salad and lots of green vegetables such as broccoli and spinach."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Affleck explains 'Bennifer' saga

PEOPLE Actor Ben Affleck has opened up about his high-profile engagement to Jennifer Lopez, insisting the pair was "too accessible" to the media, imdb.com reports.

Affleck and the singer/actress, both now married with children, began dating in 2002 after meeting on set of their film Gigli.

The former couple split shortly before they were due to wed in September 2004, marking the end of a media circus that surrounded their relationship.

"I think Jen and I made a mistake in that we fell in love, we were excited and maybe too accessible," Affleck says. "I don't think either of us anticipated the degree to which it would take on a world of its own."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Cops crash Kate's bash

HALLOWEEN Actress Kate Hudson's Halloween party attracted some unusual guests — a squad of Los Angeles cops reportedly swooped on the bash and ordered revellers to tone it down, imdb.com reports.

Hudson was dressed as a 1960s flight attendant when LAPD officers arrived at her Brentwood, L.A., home at 1 a.m. on Sunday morning to move revellers inside the property and warn them to keep the noise down.

Party guests included actress Courteney Cox, dressed as a witch, and husband David Arquette as a warlock. Actress Winona Ryder went as a mouse, and former supermodel Cindy Crawford turned up as singer Amy Winehouse.

But it was actor Gerard Butler who was the biggest hit at the bash.

"All the girls at the party were lining up to talk to Gerard," a source says. "He left with two very sexy vampires."

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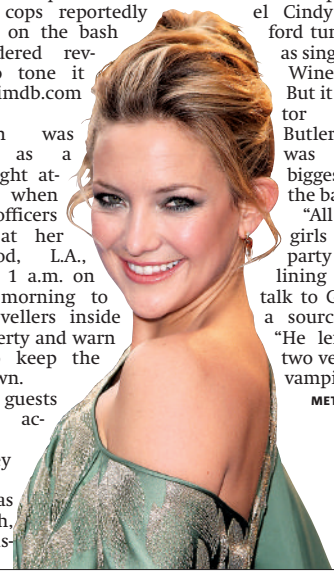

Jackson's praise stuns Zac

FAME Actor Zac Efron was overwhelmed to find out Michael Jackson is a fan of his work, and was left "speechless" when the pop superstar called to congratulate him on his success, imdb.com reports.

Jackson is a big fan of Efron's High School Musical franchise and is a close friend of the films' director Kenny Ortega.

Efron admits he was delighted when Ortega handed him his cellphone and told him that Jackson was on the line for him.

"I've been wanting to talk to Michael Jackson my whole life, but as soon as Kenny handed me the phone, I was at a loss for words. I have never been so speechless," he says. "He said he loves High School Musical. It was motivation for us, and encouragement."

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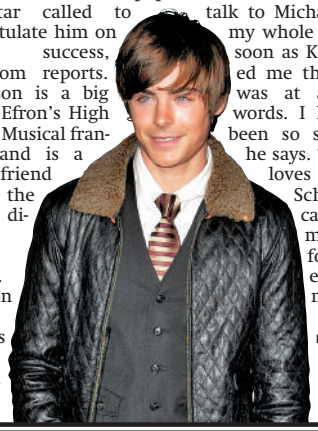

celebrity briefs

Hayden urges fans on dolphin issue

ACTIVISM Animal rights activist Hayden Panettiere has appealed to fans in an online video message to support a charity campaigning against commercial whaling, imdb.com reports.

The actress hit headlines last year when she joined animal rights activists in a protest against the slaughtering of dolphins in the historic whaling town of Taiji, Japan.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity briefs

Elle denies ties with ex-convict

RUMOUR Supermodel Elle MacPherson has denied reports she is in a relationship with convicted drug smuggler Brian Burgess and has threatened legal action if the press speculation continues, imdb.com reports.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

FameThrower

Joe O'Neill

Joe's take on celebrities

Thank goodness **Ben Affleck** is opening up about his ill-fated engagement to "I'm still, I'm still" **Jennifer Lopez**. Seems that their failure to marry can be blamed on media accessibility. Thanks for clearing that up, Ben. It's not that you were a pair of shallow, fame-grubbing quasi-stars whose publicists cooked up a brilliant scheme to dominate magazine covers for two years, and coined the celeb portmanteau, **Bennifer**, against which all others would be judged. It's just that you were so in love, and so excited, that you shared too much of yourselves. Sort of like **Romeo and Juliet**, but without the double-suicide I had my heart set on. But by making this public pronouncement about something that may as well have happened during the Napoleonic Wars as far as the addled attention spans of the celebrity-obsessed are concerned, Ben shows every indication that he is suffering from 'Dumpee's Remorse'.

I don't know if Affleck has considered how unwise it is to wax nostalgic about lost loves when your present wife is pregnant. When said wife happens to be the powerfully built **Jennifer Garner**, who kicked butt on Alias, that's just plain reckless.

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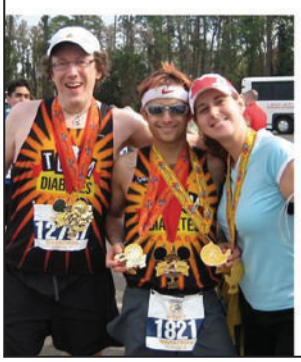
Make a change in your life and the lives of people living with diabetes.

WALK OR RUN with TEAM DIABETES



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Find out about events in Reykjavik, Honolulu and Vancouver as well as an exciting new destination – the Athens Classic Marathon! Enjoy inspiring guest speakers at our information night:

Wednesday November 5, 2008
6:30 pm
Vancouver Lookout at Harbour Centre
555 West Hastings Street, Vancouver

RSVP at 604-732-1331 x 246 or Rebecca.taylor@diabetes.ca

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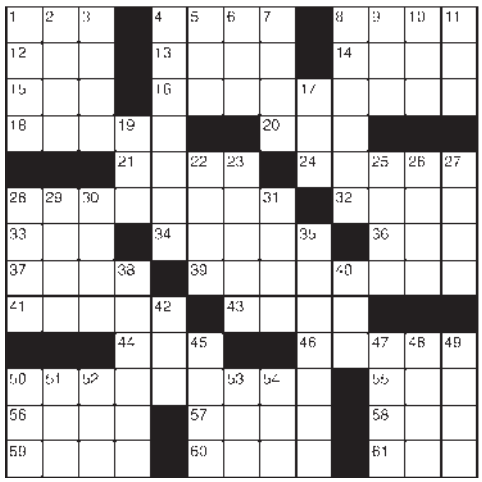

Crossword across

1 Bishopric
4 Mop the deck
8 First murderer
12 Actress Mendes
13 London gallery
14 Anger
15 Fleur-de- —
16 Plated critter
18 Pamphlet
20 Weir
21 Coagulate
24 Summertime vacation site
28 Tall cupboards
32 Pale
33 — constrictor
34 Spanish hors d'oeuvres
36 Kennedy or Danson
37 "Hairy one" of the Bible
39 Sanction by ruling
41 Plasma-like fluid
43 George of "CSI"
44 Spelling contest
46 Blake of jazz
50 Famous
55 Depressed
56 Vicinity
57 Malaria symptom
58 Corroded
59 1/746 horsepower
60 Unruly groups
61 Owns

Crossword down

1 Ego
2 Maleficence
3 Simple
4 Inspiring romance, maybe
5 Gen. Sherman called it hell
6 $ dispenser
7 Rosary component
8 Black Sea peninsula
9 Have a bug
10 "— be darned!"
11 Ultramodernist
17 Apply lightly
19 Green prefix
22 Exam format
23 Reservation residence
25 Italian wine region
26 At the home of (Fr.)
27 Jekyll's bad side
28 8-Across' victim
29 Optimistic
30 Sir's counterpart
31 Long story
35 1979 song by Robert John
38 Cheerful
40 Baton Rouge sch.
42 Coop dweller
45 Dutch cheese
47 Mediocre
48 Greek vowel
49 Rams fans?
50 Matlock's field
51 Mound stat
52 Obtain
53 In days past
54 Massage

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

		4	8	3		1		
		9						8
2			6			7	5	
	5	8		1	2			
			7	5		2	1	
	3	7			6			2
9						3		
		6		9	3	4		

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

1	6	9	2	5	7	4	3	8
4	2	5	3	1	8	7	9	6
8	3	7	9	4	6	5	2	1
2	1	4	6	3	5	8	7	9
6	9	8	7	2	4	1	5	3
5	7	3	8	9	1	6	4	2
9	4	6	1	7	2	3	8	5
3	5	1	4	8	9	2	6	7
7	8	2	5	6	3	9	1	4

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min.....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Recipe of the day

Lamb Kebabs with Greek Salad

INGREDIENTS:
1 tbsp (15 mL) extra virgin olive oil
2 large garlic cloves, crushed
juice of 1/2 lemon
1 tbsp (15 mL) chopped fresh oregano
1 (16 oz / 450 g) boneless leg of lamb, trimmed of visible fat and diced 2 cm thick
4 whole-wheat pita breads, cut into triangles, to serve
Greek-style yogurt to serve (optional)

GREEK-STYLE SALAD:
6 tomatoes, thickly sliced
1 red onion, finely chopped
1 baby or small white cabbage, about 220 g, core removed and thinly shredded
5 tbsp (75 mL) chopped fresh mint
1/4 cucumber, halved and thinly sliced
Juice of 1/2 lemon
1 tbsp (15 mL) extra virgin olive oil

METHOD:
1. Preheat the broiler or heat a ridged cast-iron grill pan. Put olive oil, garlic, lemon juice and oregano in a bowl and stir to combine. Add lamb and turn until well coated. Thread the cubes onto 4 skewers.
2. Cook lamb under the broiler or in the pan for about 7–8 minutes or until tender, turning frequently. Toward the end of cooking, warm pita bread under the broiler.
3. Place all salad ingredients in a bowl. Toss gently. Serve kebabs with salad, pita bread and yogurt, if using.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
The status quo changes when someone fails to arrive. A partnership needs to be resumed. An executive wants to make a public proposal.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
A detached associate loses out due to negligence. You'll witness a change of attitude. A radiant lover will win over the boss.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Don't make too much noise. You'll be forced to interpret some frosty behaviour. Wealth will be revealed after a meltdown occurs.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
An authorization comes through in vain. A snob says scathing things and goes away. A flirtation escalates and tempting invitations arrive.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Be sincere when explaining problems. Don't push anyone around in order to find happiness. Someone's quirks can be effectively sidestepped.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A charming female finally meets her match. A phone call will lead to a waste of energy. Personal boundaries should be respected.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
You'll have to come to the rescue of a friend. Fight against flamboyance in a brainstorming session. A precious friend has faith in your instincts.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
A keen colleague has the courage to object. Affection restores a woman's self-assurance. Someone fantasizes about excellent money ideas.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
An agile ally has lots of answers. A smart person involves you in an uncertain situation. Good conduct may be essential in the long run.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
An ignoramus isn't interested in being tactful. A trip is made to give satisfaction. The wrecking of hopeful wishes is heard of at work.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Incoming bills will be less than you expected. An unforeseen invitation will be received. An associate's apathy defies comprehension.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
A compliment is not what it seems. Insecurity brings down a new friend. A tantrum is caused when somebody is behaving respectfully.

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AWARENESS DAY
Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation BC+Yukon
Join us for an inspiring luncheon as we share our progress on the road to 2020: The Future Without Breast Cancer.
WHEN: Thursday, October 30, 2008, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm
WHERE: The Fairmont Hotel Vancouver
PRICE: $99/ticket or $990 for a table of 10
TICKETS: www.cbcfbc.org
1-800-561-6111
CANADIAN BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION FONDATION CANADIENNE DU CANCER DU SEIN
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so your HAIR is THINNING

BIOTHERA CLINICS

LASER CLINIC OFFERS NEW HOPE FOR HAIR LOSS

Vancouver (Special)
A thinning head of hair or receding hairline is no stranger to many people, but it's not something you necessarily have to befriend.
There are new and innovative solutions to hair loss that will not only thicken the hair on your head but also boost your confidence and therefore improve your life.

Richard Armstrong, a consultant with Biothera Laser Clinics, started out as a client in Biothera's Vancouver, BC clinic several years ago and was so happy with his results he decided to get involved with the company.
"It's really quite amazing just how far technology has come. Most countries now approve of cold lasers as an effective treatment for hair loss" says Armstrong.
"We are utilizing the very latest in laser technology. Our clinical lasers use cold blue diodes specifically designed to treat hair loss. This state of the art process is patented and results are quite dramatic for most people" added Armstrong.

Not all people are candidates for the laser treatment however, and Armstrong says a simple consultation will determine a person's level of eligibility. Results are documented with photographs and clients should see visible changes within 3 or 4 months.
"We must be doing something right because 30 to 40% of our business comes from referrals" says Armstrong.
Although the majority of Biothera's clients are men, there is an increasing percentage of new clients that are female. "The treatment is equally effective for both men and women" says Armstrong.
What about price…something this good must be expensive. "Laser treatment for hair loss is surprisingly affordable given the alternatives and we back your results with a written guarantee" says Armstrong.
Biothera Laser Clinics have two locations in the lower mainland.

To find out more information log on to Biothera.ca or, better still, to book an appointment for a no charge consultation call the Vancouver Clinic at (604) 675-2030 or the Langley Clinic at (604) 455-2030.

Consultations are NO CHARGE

GET TO THE ROOT OF YOUR

HAIR LOSS

With Biothera's Laser Hair Therapy Program (LHT)

WHAT IS LHT?

Biothera's LHT program utalizes the very latest in patented cold laser technology to treat hair loss. Most clients would begin with a once weekly clinical laser session that takes approximately 20 minutes.
A portable home laser is also available for those not able to attend the clinic on a weekly basis.

WILL IT WORK FOR ME?

Call us today for more information or to book an appointment for a no-charge consultation with no obligation. If it is determined that you are a good candidate for LHT™, Biothera will guarantee your results.

COLD LASER TECHNOLOGY FOR HAIR LOSS IS RECOGNIZED AS BOTH SAFE AND EFFECTIVE BY THE FDA

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